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TEAM
GROUPS

SHOOT!

22p

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1980

INCORPORATING
SOCCER MONTHLY

**FRANK
STAPLETON
EUROPE'S MOST
COMPLETE
STRIKER**

**MAN.
UNITED**
why they
can win
the title

Frank Stapleton
(left) and Alan
Sunderland
celebrate
another goal for
Arsenal.

**20 DIGITAL
SOCCER WATCHES
TO BE WON**



A SHOOT WELCOME TO SOCCER MONTHLY READERS

IT'S always a sad moment when a magazine or newspaper closes, especially a stable companion.

Regrettably, rising production costs and a decrease in revenue, mainly due to lack of advertising support in these tough economic times, forced us to cease publishing a soccer magazine designed to reach an adult readership and at the same time establish a high standard of all-round quality.

Only the best football writers, and finest colour photographs were selected.

But happily it's not the final whistle for the magazine that really got inside the game.

From this week Soccer Monthly combines with SHOOT to increase the scope and appeal of Britain's leading football magazine by regularly featuring the in-depth articles that became its trade mark.

We kick-off with a searching feature on Manchester United and talk to their manager Dave Sexton, who reveals the reasons why they can still win the title.

Apart from all the usual SHOOT favourites there's an exclusive and revealing interview with Ipswich's talk of the Town manager Bobby Robson... and we take a look at Frank Stapleton, Europe's most complete striker.

So I'm sure you will agree we can cater for football fans of ALL ages.

The end of Soccer Monthly? Not entirely, just the beginning of what promises to be an exciting new era for SHOOT.

Happy reading...

Peter Stewart

EDITOR

Place a regular order for SHOOT incorporating Soccer Monthly now!

Dave Sexton reveals two reasons why **Manchester United CAN be Champions**

BY TONY ROCHE

THE supreme test of leadership is always in the face of adversity. Likewise the best assessment of a team's Championship potential can usually be made during a period of crisis. Accepting these criteria in relation to the First Division leads to one definite conclusion — Manchester United can win the title.

Despite the mumblings of envious malcontents, the only clouds gathering over Old Trafford are the traditional, inevitable rain-variety of Mancunian fame. United is a club with a strong leader and impressive strength in depth within its playing squad.

Mention the League Championship and the chances are that Liverpool, Ipswich, Arsenal and Everton will crop up in conversation. Despite their recent, quite formidable record, Manchester United are still considered by

many rivals to be outsiders.

But a closer look at those criteria will reveal the type of solid, progressive and ambitious set-up from which Champions emerge.

Managerial leadership, especially of a club as big and repeatedly successful as United, is of the utmost importance. Dave Sexton possesses all the qualities necessary to manage, guide and at times dominate. He shuns headline seekers, suffers fools not at all and concentrates all his energies on his players.

Few people give the man credit for the way he succeeded the flamboyant, extrovert Tommy Docherty whose bold, young and whirlwind style side reached successive F.A. Cup Finals in 1976 and 1977. When Docherty left Old Trafford many supporters complained that Sexton's style of play was not as exciting.

That was the crucial point. Lesser men might have panicked and attempted to carry on where their predecessor left off. Not Sexton. He realised that Docherty's side was, in fact, almost burnt out. Changes had to be made. Organisation and hard work drilled throughout the side, allowing the individualistic talents of the players to shine through.

Popular characters such as former England winger Gordon Hill departed. Not through lack of talent, but because he was unable to contribute the overall attacking and defensive work demanded by Sexton. Mickey Thomas was signed from Wrexham and that problem wing-role was solved. No fuss. No panic. Sexton saw a flaw and corrected it. And so it has been his style ever since.

Some lifted eyebrows when Joe Jordan and Gordon McQueen arrived together from Leeds United. But since then United have reached the F.A. Cup Final, losing a dramatic thriller with Arsenal 3-2 in 1979. And last season, Liverpool just edged them into second place





Sir Matt Busby leads his team's lap of honour after capturing the 1967 League Championship (left). Tommy Docherty brought further glory to the club in 1977 when they won the F.A. Cup (right). Now Dave Sexton is aiming to follow his illustrious predecessors.



in the First Division by two points. Equally important in assessing United's Championship potential is the way the team has reacted to what can only be described as crippling and disruptive injury problems since the beginning of this season.

Sexton has yet to field what he considers his full-strength side. Since August he has, at varying stages of the two and a half months, lost Ray Wilkins, Joe Jordan, Gordon McQueen, Kevin Moran, Ashley Grimes, Martin Buchan, Jimmy Greenhoff and Lou Macari. And very often he has been without as many as five of these players at one time!

So it is hardly surprising that Sexton is pleased with the way things have gone so far.

"We have now suffered only one defeat in 12 games," he said.

"I am very proud of my players because, in spite of our injury problems, we are hanging in there.

"No manager likes talking about injuries. It always sounds so much like an excuse for failure. But we are not talking about failure. We are talking about the strength in depth a team must have to challenge for this Championship, the hardest prize to win in the world.

"Quite frankly, I am not interested in how many people do or do not rate us as contenders. At this stage of the season such speculation is nonsense. The great attraction of our football is the uncertainty.

'Magic'

"Over the years teams have come from absolutely nowhere to finish their season top or near the top. Pacemakers have crashed all the way down to relegation. The game still possesses that bit of magic that nobody can pin down.

"I doubt if people really realise the fact that we have a very young team, and one which is getting younger all the time. I introduced young Mike Duxbury into the side recently and the boy did remarkably well. He is just one of many youngsters, and now we have added Garry Birtles. I never thought Forest would let him go, and we are delighted to have him, even at £1.5 million. He will add the goalscoring touch we have previously been lacking.

"Realistically, I have been forced to make changes I would not have made if my squad had not been so decimated. But the telling factor is that we are coming out of this injury crisis now, with a good record. And at this early stage in the season it is a good situation to be in."

Despite their solid results, United have received criticism from certain quarters concerning their lack of flair, and even suggesting they have become a defensive side.

New Leeds manager Allan Clarke made few friends in Man-

chester when he said: "They are now a great club in name only. United have had their glamour days. Now, like us, they have to prove themselves, just like any other club."

But United captain Martin Buchan was quick to deliver a counter-broadside to all critics. "To accuse us of being defensive is rubbish. We have never set out to defend, nor been instructed to defend. It is simply not the Manchester United way."

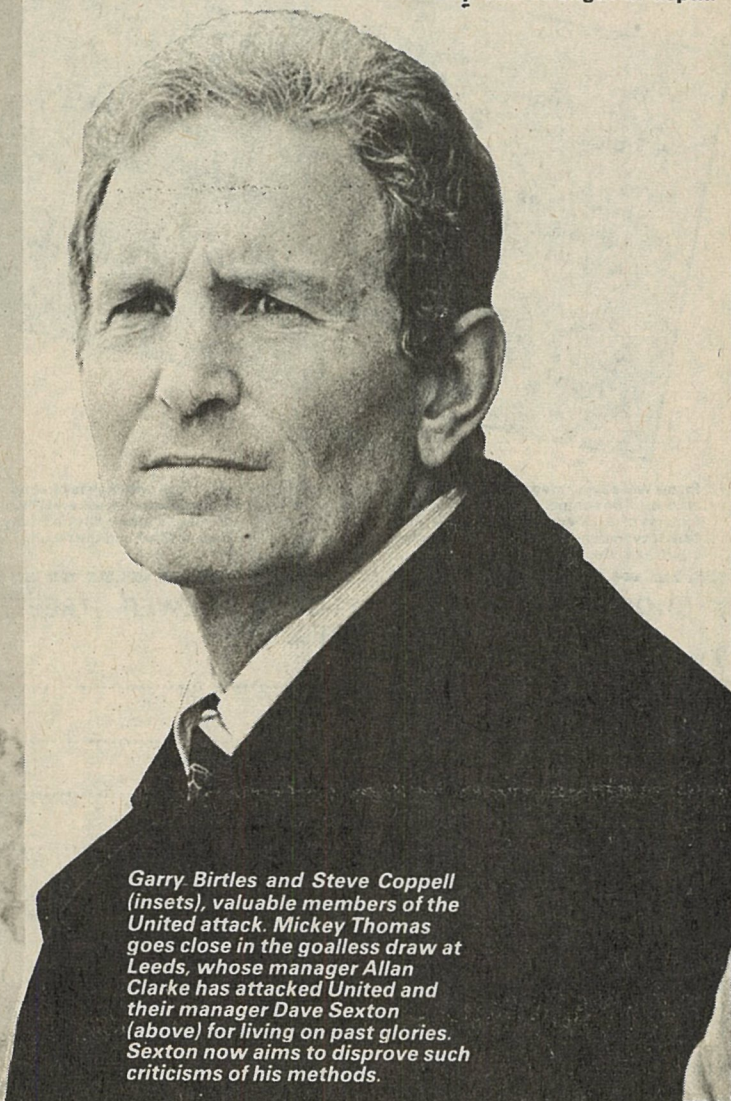
Going out of the U.E.F.A. Cup to impressive Widzew Lodz of Poland was a cruel blow to Sexton's hopes. But even that setback failed to deter him. It's the title he wants.

"This time last season Ipswich were at the bottom of the First

Division. Look at them now. Nothing, we were told, was going right for Everton. Look at them now. Liverpool, those masters of maintaining that extra-high standard of consistency are still a potent force and great example.

"But the side which really impresses me is West Bromwich Albion. They are young, strong, skilful and exciting. Whatever people say, the Championship race is always open. Towards the end it becomes more concentrated, but now is the time when teams must do the spadework to earn that successful run-in."

Whatever the jibes, Manchester United still menace their critics because they possess those two vital, title ingredients — strong leadership and strength in depth.



Garry Birtles and Steve Coppell (insets), valuable members of the United attack. Mickey Thomas goes close in the goalless draw at Leeds, whose manager Allan Clarke has attacked United and their manager Dave Sexton (above) for living on past glories. Sexton now aims to disprove such criticisms of his methods.



20

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All 92 English Football League clubs and Aberdeen and Celtic are available.

All you have to do is fill in the coupon and paste it on a postcard (or the back of a sealed down envelope) and answer the three questions about the players below.

1. Dave Clement was recently transferred from Bolton Wanderers to Fulham. Did the former Q.P.R. full-back win four, five or six full England caps?
2. Did Manchester United's Sammy McIlroy score his club's first or second goal during their 3-2 defeat by Arsenal in the 1978-79 F.A. Cup Final at Wembley?
3. Southampton's Charlie George has been on the books of two other League clubs... can you name them?

Prizes will be awarded for the 20 correct entries judged to be the neatest with age taken into account. The competition is open to readers in the U.K. and Eire, except employees and their families of IPC Magazines Ltd., the printers of SHOOT and Vayshire Ltd. Closing date is Friday 14th November, 1980. The Editor's decision is final. Winners will be notified and the result published later in SHOOT.

SHOOT/VAYSHIRE COMPETITION, 55 EWER STREET, LONDON SE99 6YP

NAME.....

ADDRESS

AGE.....

CLUB OF MY CHOICE.....

MY ANSWERS ARE:

1.

2.

3. (a)..... (b).....

'ENGLAND'S

I'D like to blame England's first defeat ever by Rumania, in Bucharest on October 15th, on the Rumanians suddenly revealing themselves as a world-class team bursting with skill. Unfortunately, I can't.

The Rumanians are still a very ordinary European side, and the reason they beat us was simply because of our poor team work. We played as individuals, failing to knit together as a cohesive force.

It was just like the European Championship Finals all over again. In Italy we did not strike the form that had enabled us to qualify for that competition.

In our defence we can point to injuries forcing us to field virtually a new team, but we do accept we're not the only team in the world to be hit in this way. It's a universal problem. That's why the squad system now exists.

As usual, every England player gave 100 per cent, fighting hard, but at international level in particular it has to be allied to skill and team work.

In the first-half in Bucharest, the Rumanians looked superior and came in at half-time ahead by a very well-worked goal. A series of accurate, quickfire passes ended with the ball at the feet of Raducanu, who firstly made to hit it with his left, dummied, and placed a crisply-struck shot with his right wide of my right hand as I dived.

Distracted

Only a few minutes later, they had the chance to go two up, when their big centre-forward, Camataru, only eight yards out, sliced his kick wide. Apparently he was distracted by an appeal for a penalty when his passer, Cristian, went down.

After that scare, we settled and felt we'd taken the steam out of their play as we trooped into the dressing room at the halfway stage.

There, our manager Ron Greenwood announced he was making a tactical change, pulling off Eric Gates and substituting him with Steve Coppell.

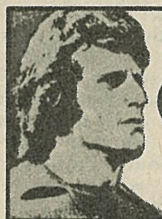
Eric had suffered from a severe stomach upset 24 hours before the game, and although he felt he'd recovered and was fit to play, he — as often happens — soon discovered out on the pitch that his illness had weakened him. He was a pale shadow of the player who has helped Ipswich Town set the League alight this season.

With a lively Steve Coppell on at the re-start, we struck something like our true form, denying the Rumanians the wholesale possession we'd granted them in the first-half.

In the 63rd minute we deservedly got the equaliser, the result of a good move by Tony Woodcock and Garry Birtles. The sort seen frequently in European football.



Tony Woodcock gets in a shot against the Rumanians.



Ray Clemence
TALKING SOCCER

It came as a result of them harrying the opposing back-four, who were trying to hold the ball to themselves.

Tony dispossessed Negrila and passed to Garry, who ran into a position from which to release a return pass that Tony calmly drove into the net.

For a spell after that we felt we were the only team capable of winning the game, as a frustrated crowd in the August 23 stadium started to shout at their players. Several Rumanian heads went down and we sensed that things were at last going our way.

But then Lady Luck intervened in favour of the Rumanians.

The Swedish referee, who until that moment had had a fine game, gave what I consider to be a dubious penalty decision against us.

He judged Kenny Sansom to have fouled their Crisan in the penalty area.

After studying the situation many times on my home video — something denied the referee, of course, in the heat of the moment when he must make an immediate judgement — I am convinced the penalty should never have been given.

There was no way Kenny even attempted to tackle the Rumanian winger, who had already lost the ball, and which Bryan Robson — the

TEAM WORK WAS POOR'



television that the referee may have been tempted to award the penalty simply because he had denied the Rumanians two in the first-half.

In truth, I felt the Rumanians may have been cheated out of a penalty earlier on.

'Tony Woodcock took his goal well'

But two wrongs don't make a right, and referees are expected to avoid making "consolation" awards.

I also think he was wrong in not ordering Jordanescu to retake the penalty for checking in his run-up.

After all, the referee took this action when England played Spain in the European Championship and the Spanish penalty-taker deceived me then with a more blatant check in his run.

On that occasion I managed to save the second spot-kick.

But the Law is quite clear that any attempt by a penalty-taker to gain an advantage ranks as ungentlemanly conduct.

I must admit I'd already made my mind up to go to my right, as Ron Greenwood had told me beforehand he'd seen Jordanescu place the ball in that spot twice when making two penalty conversions in a previous win over Yugoslavia in a friendly.

But the Rumanian showed he's equally adept at placing the ball either side of a 'keeper by driving it to my left.

The penalty sealed our fate, and so we came away without even the one point we were convinced we'd get after beating Norway 4-0 at Wembley.

Ron Greenwood summed up our feelings when he said after the game: "We didn't play at all well in the first-half, but on our second-half show I felt we deserved a point."

There was nothing to celebrate on the way home that evening on the flight to Luton, for the Under-21 side had also lost, by a bigger margin, 4-0, on the afternoon before our game.

But we Liverpool players know the value of putting a defeat behind us and preparing ourselves for the next game. The Rumanians have to wait until April before they are in World Cup action, whereas we meet Switzerland at Wembley in November, which gives us the opportunity of heading the table again.

With five teams in our group, and two to qualify, fortunately we can afford one defeat.

But there must be no more stumbling on the way to Spain for the World Cup Finals in 1982 if we're to go there with a chance of winning the trophy.

It's no secret our football is going through a bad time — mainly due to the recession — and a successful England will give it a shot in the arm.

Our main priority must be to regain the team work that's always been the hallmark of our game, and which enabled us to become World

Champions in 1966.

That brings me to my immediate personal priority: to help Liverpool catch and overhaul Ipswich Town, the pacesetters in the League making their strongest ever bid to wrest the Championship crown from us.

We're away to Stoke City, who have recovered from a poor start to string together some good results, notably an away win against Southampton.

Their side has been strengthened by Dutchman Loek Ursem and a Scottish international full-back Iain Munro now operating in midfield.

I never look forward to playing on the pitch at the Victoria Ground, as it tends to get heavy in mid-season and then very bumpy when it dries out.

It's not conducive to our particular style of play, dependent on accurate passing.

But any team which aspires to remain Champions must be capable of adapting to all kinds of surfaces.

Like last season, when they drew 0-0 against us, Stoke are sure to give us a hard game.

Another draw will not suit us this time, simply because Ipswich's tremendous form means that to beat them overall we must accumulate away wins, particularly against sides out of the Championship race!

Meet me again next week in SHOOT. All the best —

Ray Clemence

only outstanding England player — was all set to clear.

To me, Crisan deliberately threw himself into an unfortunate Kenny unable to get out of his way.

Kevin Keegan actually said on

'It was a dubious penalty decision'



Anghel Jordanescu turns in triumph after beating Ray from the penalty spot.

The first in an exclusive series of in-depth interviews with top League managers.

THE TEAM

I'VE come to the conclusion that the current team is the best in my time.

Muhren, Thijssen and Mariner are quality players and have been for two years, and they have been joined by youngsters getting better with every game in Osman, Butcher, Gates, Wark and Burley, all top class internationals. It takes time to produce a team, time to develop a style, time to get fluency and time to find understanding.

THE STYLE

Over the years Clive Woods, now at Norwich, was a remarkable player, our one orthodox winger. Now we have Kevin O'Callaghan on the books, who is undoubtedly going to be superb. But he's only 18 and will take time to force his way in.

We haven't got a winger, so we've changed our style, spending hours perfecting things in training. The introduction of the two Dutch players has been crucial. It means we have developed a couple of silky skills and have shortened our passing. We used

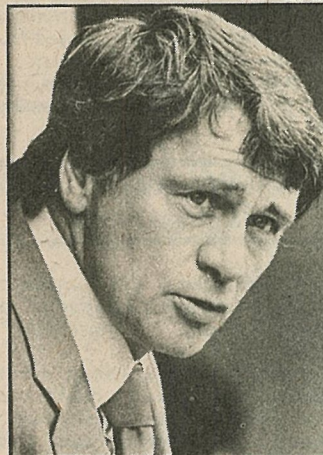
get them from the lower reaches and upgrade them.

Paul Mariner is a fine example. Managers said he couldn't do it in the First Division. They were wrong. He's the best centre-forward in the country. He's not embarrassed to play alongside Kevin Keegan. He wasn't overawed alongside Woodcock against Norway. On the night he was even better than Woodcock.

Our policy is to develop our own players because we can't compete in the transfer market. We have such a fine record that I can happily persuade players to come to Ipswich rather than go to Manchester United, Everton, Tottenham or Leeds. We fish for youngsters in all parts of the country.

We run a very good coaching and training scheme. Other clubs run football clubs for first team players. We coach players — and produce more than other clubs. If things go wrong at some clubs they panic. They

BOBBY ROBSON



Ipswich Town

buy and buy and buy.

The greatest player that we've brought on is Kevin Beattie, the most magnificent player I have ever seen at 19. I called him my diamond, a colossus. He had everything, pace, power, ability and character until injury blunted his career. Four operations on a knee — but the lad's fighting back.

RUNNING A LEAGUE CLUB

I demand loyalty, effort, concentration and dedication. I want performances in training in midweek that match the effort on Saturdays. Good trainers are good players.

The perfect professional is Mick Mills. You take on good and bad when you join a club; I inherited Mick Mills, and I thank Bill McGarry for that. I tell the youngsters 'You follow Millsey and you won't go far wrong'.

It wasn't always so good. I had upsets with players when I arrived but the youngsters stood by me. Player power can be a problem to a new manager. Some players 'hide' hoping the manager will eventually be sacked.

If a side is struggling, players

Managers must



Above left: Paul Mariner, the best striker in the country. Above right: Eric Gates, superb this season.



to play a long ball game, getting the ball to our strikers as fast as possible. We still think the quicker you get the ball up-front the quicker you get at defenders.

With the long game we lost possession many times. We gambled too much. The combination of Muhren and Thijssen in association with Wark means we now play through the midfield, combining the long game with the short. We keep possession, our passing is better, our build-up better.

But you still have to gain width in attack, as Liverpool have shown in playing Jimmy Case and Ray Kennedy wide. Thijssen and Muhren go wide, ably supported by two attacking full-backs in Burley and Mills. Mariner, Brazil and Gates give us the penetration through the middle.

We have gained success because of skilful decisions. We have bought wisely. We have never wasted money. We don't get involved in silly buys — and I can't buy £1 million players. I

should question their own performances.

The Ipswich board have been tremendous, their non-interference an example to all. The chairman has never come to me and instructed me on the internal factors of running this club.

DISCIPLINE

You have to be strong to run a First Division club. You don't have to be a terrible man, simply firm. Players must know who's boss. If players rebel against authority, maybe they should go.

One of the hardest tasks is to tell a youngster he's not going to make the grade. Some of them have shed tears in my office. I have to tell some of them after a year or two that they don't measure up to the standards we seek.

I break my back to help them find a club, be it Charlton Athletic or Millwall or somewhere like that.

It's never easy parting with a player. For example, a year ago I sold David Geddis to Aston Villa. He hasn't done that well and that's upset me because Villa paid £300,000. I'm not smiling all the way to the bank. I want that boy to be brilliant for Ron Saunders, and when he gets a goal I'm the first to rejoice. He's a smashing lad.

THE FANS

It's important we foster good relationships with fans — but we don't want them running the club. I encourage players to do public relations work, going to youth clubs, presenting prizes, refereeing matches, anything that brings us closer to the terraces.

When the testimonials come round we expect the fans to support us, so we must help them for the good of the game.

MANAGING A CLUB

It takes experience to become a good manager. He should run the club from top to bottom, *not* the directors or chairman. He controls the directors. He should know the

Dave Sexton, at Manchester United, are good managers. Alan Dicks was a good manager. Bristol City must regret losing him.

Football management is a profession. I want us to become as dignified as doctors, lawyers and dentists. They don't slag each other off in print and knife each other publicly. We mustn't destroy each other but work together for the good of football.

If I want to say something to John Barnwell at Wolves, I don't say it through the Daily Express. It's private, man to man.

A MANAGER'S LIFESTYLE

Ipswich have given me security. A board have to be special to give a man a ten-year contract. I don't work in a pressure cooker, nothing like Malcolm Allison in his last year at Manchester City. What an awful life he must have had at Maine Road.

I well remember the Ipswich fans giving me stick a few years ago. My chairman apologised for their behaviour. 'I hope I never hear anything like that again,' said Mr John Cobbold.

for my schooling. Vic Buckingham taught me discipline when he managed West Brom. Walter Winterbottom, the first man to take charge of England, taught me about the game. A great man, a great coach who could impart knowledge absolutely brilliantly. I learned the game from Walter.

I learned the game from good players, Johnny Haynes, of England and Fulham, Bedford Jezzard at Fulham, and Ronnie Allen, Ray Barlow and Don Howe at West Brom.

AMBITIONS

I nearly went to Spain twice, first to Bilbao and last summer to Barcelona. I had an amazing offer from Barcelona, a lot of money for two years' work which would have meant I need never work again on my return. It was a challenge, learning a new language, working with new players, operating in a different football.

I didn't go because the Ipswich board didn't want me to. So I lost the job. It was the only disagreement I've had in 12 years. I don't think they should have stopped me from going after 12 years. But that was their decision — and I've accepted it

hardly a person in the country criticised the F.A. when they appointed Don. He was the right man at the time.

When he vacated the job I became interested. But Ron Greenwood was in the running, a fine manager with West Ham for many years. A knowledgeable man, a very ambassadorial manager, a good man with a sound knowledge. And again I had to say to myself 'the job's gone to the right man'.

It didn't upset me. He is the best man. As long as he wins the big ones he will be okay.

Now there's talk of his retiring in two years. I've said to Ron 'You keep the job, don't worry about Sexton, Clough, Robson, Venables, and McMenemy, we've all got good jobs.'

I want every League manager to work like mad to produce players for Ron Greenwood. We don't want his job. If he retires, that's different. Meanwhile, I want Ron to lead us to the 1986 World Cup Finals.

It's not a young man's job. It's a job for men like Alf Ramsey, Don Revie and Ron. It's only for men with 15 years' experience in management.

People talk of Terry Venables. Let Terry have ten years in management first. He's got some battles to solve first at Queens Park Rangers before he's ready for the job. At the moment, he's a brilliant coach.

PRODUCING ENGLAND PLAYERS

We must work to produce better class players. We're not producing enough world class players. There are some like Keegan, the two England goalkeepers, Kenny Sansom, a beautiful player, Ray Wilkins, you won't find a better passer from Argentina to the Azores, and Trevor Brooking, who won't mind me saying he hasn't got five years left at international level.

Ron must be allowed to get players together. Don Revie asked permission to cancel League matches to get players together for ten days before a game. He had the arrangement once, but because we didn't win the game they wouldn't allow it again. You only learn to swim after ten attempts.

How can you expect 16 players, 14 of them from different clubs, to strike up an understanding between their arrival on Monday and the match on the Wednesday.

We must produce players with better techniques. Our players are playing too much football. There is not enough time to train, develop techniques and skills. They are always playing.

MANAGEMENT OR PLAYING?

I enjoyed every moment of my career with Fulham and West Bromwich Albion. To pull on an England shirt for the first time against France at Wembley in 1957 was marvellous, but my proudest moment was to lead Ipswich on to the Wembley pitch for the 1978 F.A. Cup Final.

As a player you do it for yourself, it's selfish. As a manager you are doing it for everyone — and that thrills me more.

stick together



Above left: Thijssen's half volleyed goal against Liverpool.

Above: Don Howe — I learned a lot from him.

Above right: Johnny Haynes — a superb passer for Fulham and England.

situation so that he doesn't have to go to the board if he wants to buy. He should conduct all matters to do with transfers and salaries.

He masterminds the coaching, the scouting, handles the Press and is totally in charge. There are few managers in the country doing that.

The best manager must be Bob Paisley. More than 40 years at Liverpool, a disciple of Bill Shankly, Bob sets the standards we must follow.

There are plenty of good coaches — but they are not managers. A glorified coach who sometimes wears a suit is not a good manager. Clubs go wrong when they appoint a track-suit manager.

It's good to see Alan Mullery having a bash at Brighton. When he's known more hassle, overcome more problems than that posed by the Peter Ward transfer, he will be a good manager. You need hardship before you can call yourself a manager.

Brian Clough saw the other side of football at Hartlepool. Clough and

I have a lovely house in the country six minutes from Portman Road without a traffic light between my office and the front door.

According to my contract I have a month's holiday. I never use all of it, taking only a few days off. Ipswich is my life. I play a bit of golf. I played once last year — and paid £86 green fees for the pleasure, believing I'd play more. It's gone up to over £100 this year, so I must play more.

I play squash and still kick a ball with the players. They say life at the top is tough. Rubbish. Life at the bottom is tough. Allison had it rough, Venables has had it rough, and I had it rough at Ipswich before Christmas, 1979.

I thank veterans like Bill Dodgin senior, former manager of Fulham,

without moaning.

I've turned down a lot of offers from English clubs. I could have joined major clubs with all that terrace fervour — and that is one of the reasons for my outburst this season about Ipswich's fans.

We are the best team in the country. I can't do any more with the team at the moment and that's why I'm trying to get that bit extra from the crowd. So I had a go at them. Maybe I overplayed it. My intention was to stir people. I used the wrong word ('Zombies'). I wanted to tell them that they lack the passion you get in certain working-class areas, industrial regions and suchlike.

THE ENGLAND JOB

The England manager has the most prestigious job in the country. It's no secret I wanted the job after Don Revie. It should be remembered that

BEST RETURNS

GEORGE BEST has signed for the American side San Jose Earthquakes. But Hibs fans haven't seen the end of him. Best cost the Californian club £30,000 and part of the deal is that the Earthquakes will come to Edinburgh next October with Best in the side to play Hibs in a friendly.



BOBBY Charlton shows his style at a different sport in the recent *Bob Hope British Classic* golf Championship at the RAC Country Club, Epsom. The Pro-Am tournament raised £65,000 for charity.

SLIP-UP . . . tickets for Eire's World Cup game with Belgium on October 15th advertised a 5pm kick-off. The game started at Lansdowne Road at 4.15pm.

Here's a rare sight

REAL Madrid acknowledging the welcome from a sparse crowd in a near deserted stadium.

The venue was Lansdowne Road, Dublin, only minutes before Real's First Round European Cup game against Limerick United.

Limerick thought they would attract a bumper attendance by switching the attractive tie from their own Market's Field to the more spacious Dublin venue. But, as has happened several times this season, the Dublin public stayed away. And a crowd of only 9,000 turned up to see the Eire Champions put up a great performance before losing 2-1 to the Spaniards.



SHOOT on stage

IF you go along to the New Vic in Bristol, you will be able to see **SHOOT** starring in "Cyril's Little Moments" by Julian Garner. Well almost. The play, which runs until November 15th, is about two brothers, one who loves football and one who hates it.

One wall of the bedroom is entirely covered by front covers from **SHOOT**, donated by an avid reader of our magazine, Jonathan Pearce. He refused to throw his old issues away, preferring to wait for a good cause.

Managerial Leeds for Gray

LEEDS United may be in the soccer doldrums, but they are earning a new reputation as a soccer academy for would-be managers.

It used to be the West Ham United stars who, after serving their education under Ron Greenwood, went on to new fame in the managerial and coaching world.

Now the men who grew up under the aegis of Don Revie are taking over in the hot seat stakes.

The return of Allan Clarke, to Elland Road underlines just how busy former Leeds stars are. For the production line of managers from the Yorkshire club now reads: Billy Bremner, Jack Charlton, Johnny Giles, Norman Hunter, Terry Cooper and Clarke himself.

And the man who has seen it all in 21 years at Elland Road, Maurice Lindley, says there is at least one more to add to the list.

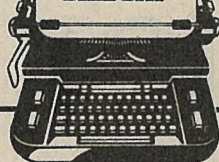
Says Maurice, five times

caretaker-manager at the club: "Eddie Gray will be the next man to go into management from here. He has the knowledge and ability to put things over to people as well as a great attitude to the game."

Lindley also reckons: "I'm sure that Trevor Cherry will also want to have a go, and perhaps Peter Lorimer will end up managing as well."

NEWS DESK

Compiled by
BILL DAY



Cowdenbeath's unlikely fans

FIVE young fans from Colne, Lancashire, were happy boys last month — because they had seen their favourite team play at last.

The boys, Stephen Berry, John Newbold, Scott Woodward, Peter Roberts and Rowan Agg, all follow Scottish second Division side Cowdenbeath — because they like "the team with a funny name".

They decided to travel North to the Five town to support Cowden in their top-of-the-table clash with Clyde. That

meant leaving Colne by train at 6am and arriving in Cowdenbeath at noon.

Cowdenbeath directors Eric Mitchell and Jim Malcolm were there to meet them and treat them to a meal at a local hotel. The boys — aged from 13 to 15 — were also presented with pennants and the team's autographs.

Then the party joined the hometown fans at Central Park . . . and were rewarded for their long trek when Cowdenbeath won 4-2.

Now the lads are hoping for promotion this season.

Oriental success

ONE of the success stories of Norwich City's rocky start to the season was the form of 18-year-old midfielder Mark Barham (right) — a player who went to China to establish a first team place at Carrow Road!

The home-bred youngster expected to end last season on tour with the England Youth team but joined Norwich instead on their trip to the Far East.

And Mark so impressed the then Norwich boss John Bond with his enthusiasm and touch that he played in all four tour games and has now pinned down the right-sided midfield spot at Carrow Road.

He said: "I have to be glad now that I didn't make it with the England lads to Germany. It would have been a good experience I know, but the way things have worked out for me with the club must be better in the long run."

EVERTON midfielder star Asa Hartford, whose transfer from West Brom to Leeds broke down nine years ago when a medical revealed he had a hole in his heart, is to help in a big advertising campaign launched by the British Heart Foundation. Asa says: "For me, playing football is a miracle."



Icelandic success for Alex

FORMER Rangers and Aberdeen star Alex Willoughby found success as a player. Now he's collecting honours as a coach with Icelandic side Sportsclub Akureyri.

In his first season in charge, Alex guided the club to the Second Division Championship, gaining 31 out of a maximum 36 points.

Now Alex has his sights on Europe. "I demanded a high standard of training and discipline from my players and they all responded magnificently," he told us.

"I'm not going into the First Division to consolidate. With my background I go out to win everything."

"If I can strengthen the squad with two or three players when the new season starts next March I can see no reason why we can't finish high enough in the League to achieve a place in the U.E.F.A. Cup."

Alex had two years with former Ibrox team-mates Willie Henderson and Jim Forrest with Hong Kong Rangers before joining Johannesburg Rangers in South Africa.

He then had a spell in Western Australia with Englewood Kiev.

But last season's triumph with Akureyri has made managers in Britain realise Alex Willoughby is on his way back.

WIGAN Athletic's latest signing is from the famous local Rugby League club. No, they haven't got themselves a flying winger, the man in question is groundsman Billy Mitchell. He's been at Central Park for many years, and has already made many improvements to the playing surface of the Fourth Division club.

NOTTINGHAM Forest's seven-goal romp against Bury in the Football League Cup recently was their best for 23 years. The last time Forest bagged seven was in a First Division match against Burnley at the City Ground in 1957.



FOOTBALL HOLIDAY

FANCY a holiday where you can improve your favourite sport? Then go to Eurosports Village, which is fast becoming Europe's largest integrated recreational activity centre.

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If you'd like some more information and details of costs etc., write to Mr Kit Carson, Eurosports Village, Shotley Gate, Ipswich, Suffolk.

MICKEY Thomas was in Manchester United's losing F.A. Cup Final side against Arsenal in 1979. That was bad enough for the little Welshman, but now even worse, thieves have stolen the medal, a nine-carat gold one, and a sovereign from Thomas' house in Rhyl.



Wrong coast for Ted

TED MacDougall left Blackpool where he was player/coach... because he preferred the quiet life on the South Coast. There was no row with boss Alan Ball — it was simply that MacDougall saw his future in business rather than football.

He explains: "I took over a pub, the Mill Arms, last spring. A week later the Blackpool job came up. I was reluctant to take it, but my family said they could run things at this end so I joined them."

"The prospect of linking up with Ballie was too good to turn down. Putting Blackpool on the map again was a challenge."

"I was delighted when we stayed in Division Three. I've also been pleased with the way the team has progressed under Alan, whom I think will be a top-class manager."

"The problem was, the pub was becoming too much for my wife and parents. It was important that I was around. I had to make a choice and on a long-term basis I had to decide to leave Blackpool."

Are Kennedy's England Days Over?

RAY Kennedy will never play for England again... that's the opinion of the Liverpool midfielder. He says: "After being left out of the squad for Rumania, which was severely weakened by injuries, I can have no other conclusion."

"I've accepted it, even though Ron Greenwood has said nothing to me. A few months ago, during the European Championship, my England career seemed fine."

"I thought I did well, so imagine my disappointment when I wasn't called up for the first international of the season against Norway. When I didn't make the Rumania squad I knew that was that."

"I'd love to be proved wrong, but I don't think it will happen. I'm still proud to have won 17 caps, plus being called up in many more squads."

"Liverpool offered me a four-year contract, which I was pleased to sign. Chances are I'll pick up a few more medals in that time."

"Then, when I'm 33, I'd like to move back to my native North-East to play for Sunderland or Newcastle — or even as manager if others have moved on!"



Briefly...

● Noel King's dismissal while playing for Bohemians against Dundalk recently means that the 24-year-old Dubliner has now been sent-off while playing for all four of his League of Ireland clubs.

Noel had previously received red cards while assisting Home Farm, Dundalk and Shamrock Rovers. In each instance he was playing against one of his former clubs!

● Eighteen-year-old Gerard Hendrick went the best way about showing Blackpool that he was worth signing. Playing for the Irish club St. Patrick's Athletic in a friendly game at Bloomfield Road, Gerard gave Blackpool's

player-manager Alan Ball such a hard time in midfield, he had almost no option but to sign the talented teenager on the spot.

● Chain-smoking national team manager Cesar Menotti has just caused a sensation in Argentina... by appearing for 90 minutes in a nationwide TV interview without once lighting a cigarette.

● Linfield have snapped-up former Northern Ireland Youth international cap Gary McCartney, who formerly had a four-year spell in the junior ranks of Football League Champions Liverpool.

● Glenavon team-chief Billy Sinclair is aiming to continue his remarkable League Championship-winning ways with the Mourneview Park outfit.

Glaswegian Billy earned Irish League medals with both Glentoran and Linfield, earlier in his career, and player-managed Sligo Rovers to their 1977 Eire League triumph. The shrewd and ebullient Scot is now chasing title win number four in his colourful Emerald Isle sojourn.

● Ted Wanless, who played with Liverpool manager Bob Paisley for Bishop Auckland in the 1939 F.A. Amateur Cup-winning team, has died aged 64.

● Former Scotland goalkeeper, Ernie McGarr, has taken on the unenviable task of keeping goal for Berwick Rangers, the Scottish First Division club with the worst goals against record in Britain. Manager Dave Smith signed McGarr from Premier Division side Airdrie for a small fee.

THINGS are looking up for Steve Sherlock, a 21-year-old full-back who in the past has been given free transfers by both Manchester City and Luton.

Sherlock, who joined Stockport in August last year, has been attracting the scouts to Edgeley Park. Fulham have already offered £30,000 for the player now valued at £50,000.

The Birmingham-born player joined Manchester City as a youngster and had four years at Maine Road during which time he played in the Central League. He only made two League appearances in his one season at Luton. But now he has taken his first-team chance in great style.

IF Derry City's application to re-join the Irish League is turned down it's likely that they will then try for membership of the League of Ireland (Eire). Several Derry players have turned out for Donegal club Finn Harps in recent years. And a precedent has been set with English club Berwick Rangers in the Scottish League.

LIMERICK United lost their 100 per cent record in the League the day after their non-playing manager Dave Maheedy got married!



Price's milestone

ALTHOUGH Chris Price will not be 21 until next March, he is about to become the youngest player from the Hereford United club to make 100 Football League appearances.

He is a product of local schools soccer and has been at Edgar Street for the past five years.

A former England youth international, Price is a player with a very bright future and should chalk up his century later this month.

The current holder of the record is Steve Emery, who moved to Derby County last season for £100,000. Price himself has similar aspirations to move up the soccer ladder.

In recent weeks he has adopted a more attacking role from defence and notched a couple of goals — his first in the Football League.

LIVERPOOL striker David Johnson has two Championship chases on his mind. For not only is he in hot pursuit of the First Division Championship with the Anfield Reds once again, but the seven-year-old chestnut steeplechaser Monte Ceco, which David jointly owns with Wirral hotelier Don Jeffries, qualified recently for next year's Grand National.

They said it...

"I find it hell sitting on the bench. Whenever I have to wear the number 12 shirt I come away from the game more drained and physically exhausted than if I'd been playing." West Brom's John Deehan.

"The main qualification for being a director of a football club seems to be that you know absolutely nothing about the game, so why should it be any different when it comes to Rugby League?" Fulham's marketing director Malcolm Macdonald.



"When a manager signs a contract he's really signing his resignation. He just doesn't fill in the date." Tommy Docherty (above).

"I'm not saying we should chop off hooligans' hands, but when you look at Saudi Arabia, a few lashes like that might do a bit of good." Oldham manager Jimmy Frizzell.

"I don't think. You don't think in this game." Leeds' manager Allan Clarke.

"It's always hard losing, but imagine losing on a penalty in the shoot-out of a mini-game of the second-leg of a series you had won 4-3. I wonder what Cloughie would say about that." Seattle Sounders' coach Alan Hinton on the NASL system.

"There is no doubt that Britain is a country rich in culture and traditions. But its soccer envoys abroad are worse than the barbarous hordes of Attila. Never before have we seen anything so uncivilised as the behaviour by the savage supporters of West Ham." Madrid sports paper AS.

"If I want to be a general manager I'll join the local Co-op." Wolves manager John Barnwell.

"I have a work-out a couple of times in the ring. This keeps me fit and ensures I'm not as good looking as Cyrille Regis." Norwich's boxer/footballer Justin Fashanu.



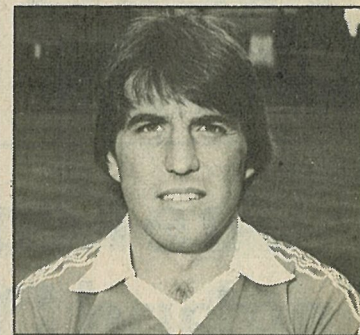
"I've never played in a game where the ref's been perfect." Liverpool's Graeme Souness (above).

"Liverpool always seem to find a boot at the right moment to keep Birmingham at arm's length." Radio City's Clive Tilsley.

"Every day I get up thanking Heaven for the chance I had to get away from Glasgow. My motivation has never been finance, just the urge to better myself." Cambridge manager John Docherty.

"Men like McQueen and Corrigan don't complain about fair physical contact even when it's technically unfair." John Motson, Match of the Day.

"They put false odds on us at 10-1 to win the League. We're a decent side at home but away we can't get enough control to play. If you don't get that control you won't win your games. At The Dell we are a different team, but to win anything in the League you need to get points away. We can't do that so we're not good enough." Southampton's Mike Channon.



"I'm getting on a bit, coming up to 30. It wouldn't surprise me if the manager called me in and said he wanted to sell me." Everton's Bob Latchford (above).

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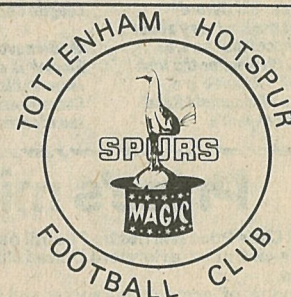
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THE wall of the dressing room at St. James' Park is adorned with a newspaper clipping which declares that 40-year-old Arthur Cox has no right to be manager of Newcastle.

The article was pinned up by Cox himself, who explains: "It was written by Brian Clough, who said I wasn't big enough for this job. That is all the motivation I need, and I can tell Brian Clough that I aim to make him eat those words."

Certainly Cox's appointment was not a particularly welcome one with the Newcastle supporters, who were looking for a big-name boss to succeed Bill McGarry in the vacant manager's chair.

But, as caretaker-boss Joe Harvey was quick to point out to the directors, United had to accept that men such as Lawrie McMenemy — and Clough himself — wouldn't go to a club languishing in the Second Division. The time was right for a talented man still looking to make his way in the game.

Cox was the choice — and he jumped at the chance to return to an area where he knew all about the fervour of the fans from his days as Bob Stokoe's assistant when Sunderland won the F.A. Cup in 1973.

"I suppose Clough's comments were prompted by the fact that I'm not the sort who's constantly made the headlines, nor was I a

themselves, and his methods were reflected in the club's results. He aims to repeat such methods at Newcastle.

"I always wanted to return to the North East," Cox explains. "But I owe a great deal to Chesterfield, who taught me such a lot in my time there as manager."

"I am excited about the challenge at Newcastle though, because the club is steeped in tradition. The people of the North East are fanatical about their football and there is no limit to the possible achievements."

"I don't ask the players to go and play for me — I tell them to play for those supporters."

'Quickly'

"The success of the club means so much to them. If we lose on Saturday, the production lines don't move so quickly on the Monday."

"The crowd at St. James' Park has turned average players into good ones and good ones into great ones. So many players fail to reproduce their form when they leave here because they don't have the backing of this crowd."

"In return, we've got to give them something to cheer, then this place will really go with a bang. It's a smouldering giant and just needs a tiny spark to set it alight."

"Football needs Newcastle United to be successful and in the

First Division. When I took over here I got dozens of good luck telegrams, even from people like Bob Paisley. Like everybody else in football, he knows about the atmosphere here and wants to bring his team to St. James' Park."

Players who have served under Cox describe him as hard but fair, demanding 100 per cent commitment and looking after his men in return.

Geoff Salmons, the talented but inconsistent forward who Cox left behind at Chesterfield, says: "I wish that I had met Arthur Cox ten years earlier. If I had, I think I would have achieved much more."

But Arthur Cox isn't making any rash promises to the Newcastle fans. He realises there is a lot of hard work ahead, and at the moment is seeking steady progress rather than the blindly optimistic wish for an immediate return to the First Division.

He will have little money to spend on new players, and his true worth will be tested to the extreme in the forthcoming months.

Nevertheless, he is adamant about his ultimate ambition for the club. "I rate Newcastle as one of the top six clubs in the country, and the First Division will not be complete until we are back up there. We must look ahead and not backwards. We must make sure Newcastle has first class football as soon as possible."

BIG MATCHES OF THE DAY

Saturday, 1st November

Stoke City v Liverpool

ALTHOUGH Stoke City have beaten Liverpool 22 times in 48 League clashes at the Victoria Ground, only four of those victories have come Stoke's way in the last 16 Liverpool visits!

Stoke fans will not easily forget their side's last home League win over the Anfield club, for on that occasion in March, 1975, when both sides were Championship contenders, the Victoria Ground accommodated one of its biggest-ever crowds — 45,594.

At that time Liverpool were unbeaten in their previous nine First Division games but they crashed 2-0 at Stoke with winger Terry Conroy getting both of the home side's goals, one from the penalty spot.

Since then The Reds have drawn twice and won 2-0 last season.

Aston Villa v Leicester City

BACK in April, 1962, Aston Villa thrashed Leicester City 8-3 at Villa Park, their goals coming from Bobby Thomson (three), Derek Dougan (two), Alan Baker, Harry Burrows and a Len Chalmers o.g. Only Tommy Ewing among the Villa forwards failed to score that afternoon.

However, since that crashing defeat Leicester have lost only three of their nine First Division games at Villa Park, a fine away record by any standards and one which certainly marks the Filberts down as an Aston Villa bogey team. Indeed, Leicester have won six and drawn three of their last 14 League games at Villa Park.

Everton v Tottenham Hotspur

THIS will be Tottenham's 44th League visit to Goodison Park where they have won 21 times and drawn 12. The Londoners haven't won there since August, 1968, when a 55,000 crowd saw Jimmy Greaves and Martin Chivers get the goals in a 2-0 victory. That was Spurs' third win on the trot at Goodison so there has been some change of fortune in this particular fixture, although the London club has drawn five of their last ten visits.

One wonders how many will be at Goodison on Saturday who can recall Tottenham's biggest victory there in February, 1928. It was certainly remarkable because the mighty Everton were on their way to winning the League Championship while Spurs were destined for relegation. On this occasion, however, Spurs won 5-2.

Manchester City v Norwich City

HAVING won only once in 11 League visits to Maine Road, Norwich City will be looking for a change of fortune on this ground on Saturday.

That solitary League win was a Second Division game in September, 1964, when The Canaries leading scorer, Gordon Bolland, got both of their goals in a 2-0 victory. Since then Norwich have scored only three goals in 12 hours League football at Maine Road. For Manchester City boss John Bond this game will have a very special meaning. See page 47.

Cox aims to prove Cloughie wrong

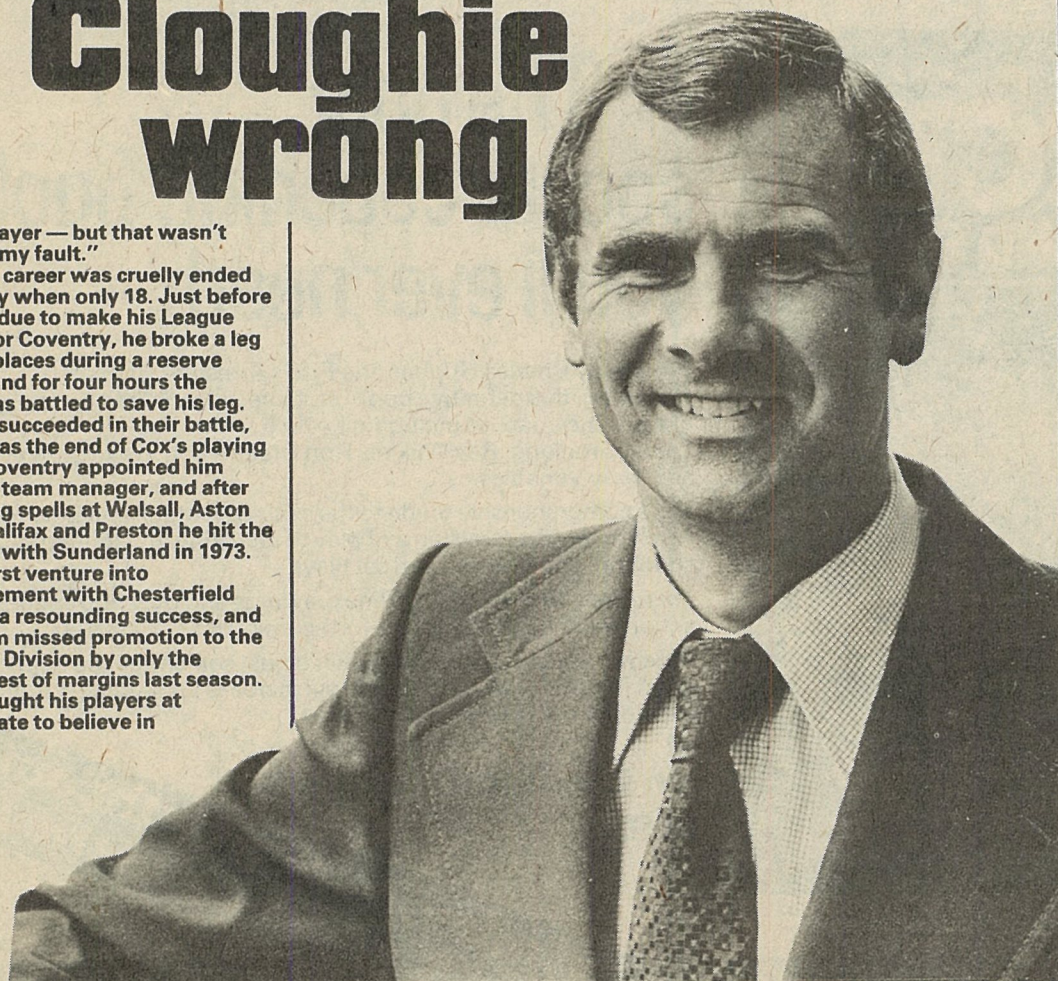
great player — but that wasn't exactly my fault."

Cox's career was cruelly ended by injury when only 18. Just before he was due to make his League debut for Coventry, he broke a leg in four places during a reserve game, and for four hours the surgeons battled to save his leg.

They succeeded in their battle, but it was the end of Cox's playing days. Coventry appointed him reserve team manager, and after coaching spells at Walsall, Aston Villa, Halifax and Preston he hit the jackpot with Sunderland in 1973.

His first venture into management with Chesterfield proved a resounding success, and his team missed promotion to the Second Division by only the narrowest of margins last season.

He taught his players at Saltergate to believe in

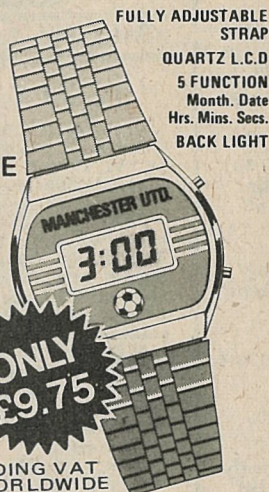


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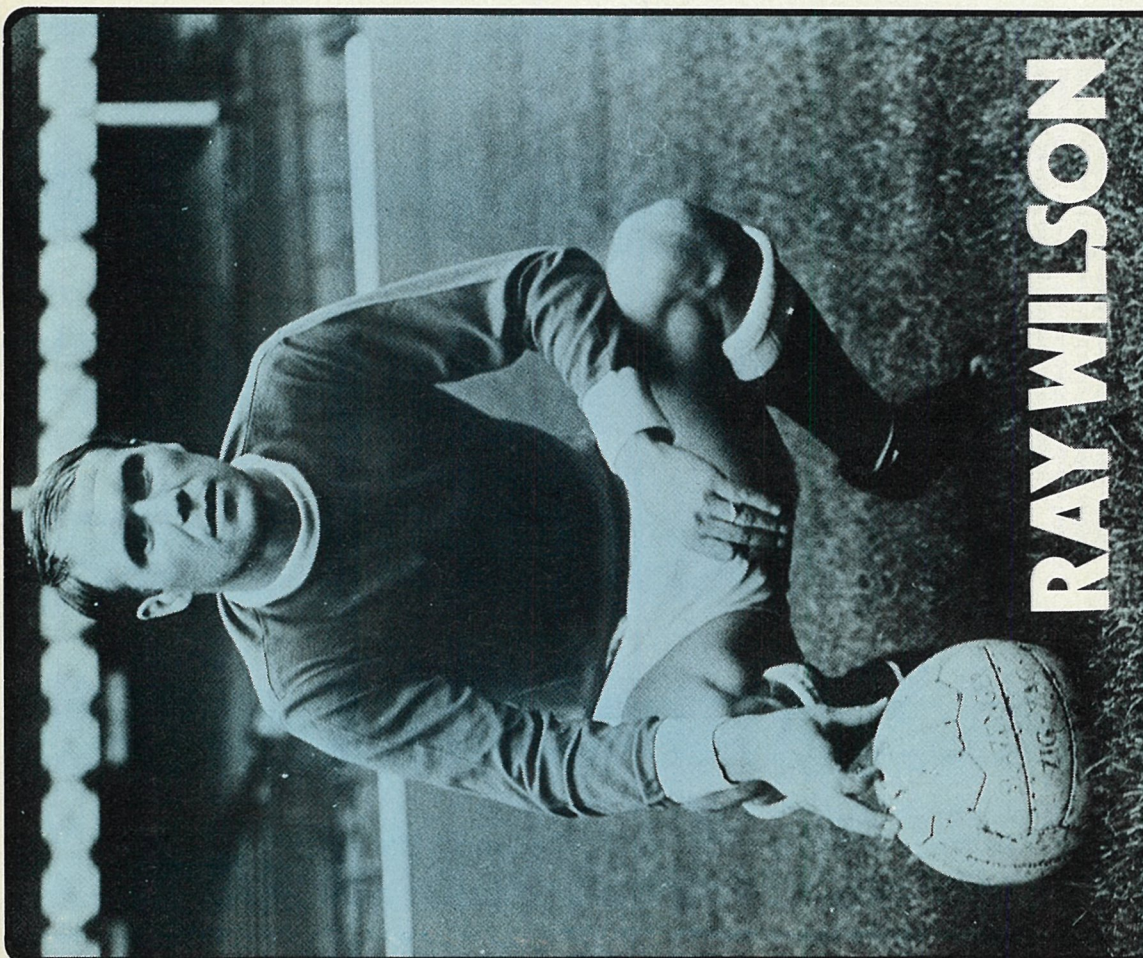
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33



RAY WILSON

to Everton for a sizeable fee, and two years later he helped the club capture the F.A. Cup for the first time in 33 years. Another appearance at Wembley followed in the 1968 Final against WBA, but shortly after this game an increasing number of injuries made it clear that Ray Wilson's career at the top would soon be over. In 1969 he was given a free transfer by Everton boss Harry Catterick, completing the final months of his career with Oldham Athletic. Since his retirement he has completely severed his links with the game, and is now an undertaker.

ONE of England's greatest full-backs, Ray Wilson gained 63 full international caps and was a member of the 1966 World Cup-winning team. A naturally left-footed defender, Wilson started with Huddersfield Town, flourishing under the management of Bill Shankly. After a series of outstanding performances, he was rewarded with his first full cap against Scotland in 1960. A series of distressing injuries threatened Wilson's career shortly after this first honour, but he made a complete recovery to feature in England's World Cup campaigns of 1962 and 1966. In 1964 he moved

104

ARCHIE GEMMILL



TIRELESS and energetic midfielder general with more than 40 caps for Scotland. Captain of both club and country, Gemmill's arrival at Birmingham last season was one of the key factors behind the Midlands club's immediate return to the First Division. Born in Paisley, Archie started his career with his local side St. Mirren, for whom he completed 67 League

games. From there he moved to Preston, followed by a long and successful spell at Derby County, where he helped The Rams to the League Championship in 1972 and 1975. His call-up to the Scotland team came in 1971 against Belgium, and Gemmill has since featured in the 1974 and 1978 World Cup Finals. After 261 League games for Derby, Gemmill rejoined his former manager Brian Clough at Nottingham Forest, and helped his new team to the Championship in 1978. Left on the substitutes' bench for the 1979 European Cup Final he moved on to Birmingham at the beginning of last season. Brian Clough has not made many mistakes during his managerial career, and the fact that many people believe that his decision to release Gemmill was premature could be the greatest compliment possible.

EUSEBIO



A 'black panther' among strikers, with a deadly rocket-shot in both feet, Eusebio Da Silva Ferreira broke all Portuguese scoring records during the 1960's and led the national team to its best-ever performance — third place in their only World Cup appearance in 1966. Born in Portugal's African colony of Mozambique on January 25th, 1942, Benfica brought him to Lisbon in 1961 and his hip-shrugging body-swerve, athletic sprinting and powerhouse shooting led the club to nine League titles, five Cups and four European Cup Finals — though only the first ended in a 3-2 triumph over favourites Barcelona. Eusebio himself topped the goalcharts year after year; won two Golden Boots as Europe's top scorer; collected 65 caps for Portugal; and showed the full range of his skills by hitting nine goals in six matches to finish as leading scorer of the 1966 World Cup Finals. Eusebio finally left Benfica at the age of 32 to head for the dollars of US soccer.



DINO ZOFF



HIS career between the posts of the Italian national team spans 20 seasons and 84 appearances. He's played over 550 League matches for Udinese, Mantova, Naples and (since 1972) Juventus. He set a new record with 242 consecutive appearances for the Turin club. He set another by keeping a blank scoresheet for 902 minutes during the 1972-73 season. And yet another by remaining unbeaten in the Italian goal for an incredible 1,143 minutes until Haiti's Sanon beat him in the 1974 World Cup Finals. Born on February 28th, 1942, Zoff's qualities — apart from his incredible consistency — are coolness, grim concentration, sharp reflexes and courage, though surprisingly suspect at times against long-range shooting. Despite his admirable record, Zoff has sadly won few major honours at international level — the European Championship with Italy in 1968 and a U.E.F.A. Cup with Juventus in 1977 — though his safe keeping has helped the Turin side to five League titles.

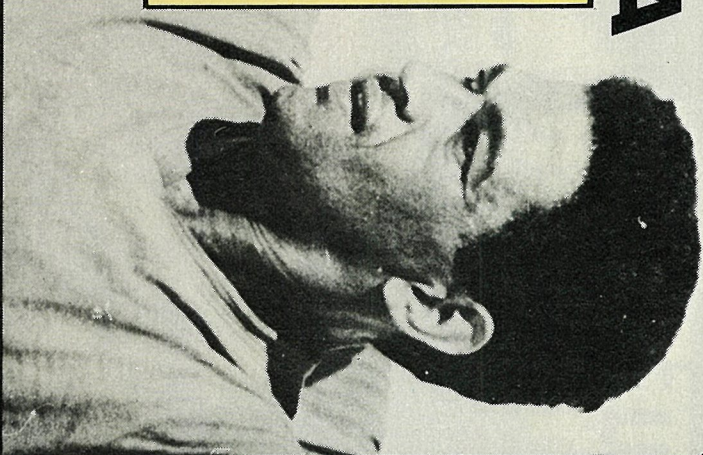
TERRY YORATH



RAPIDLY approaching the Welsh international record of 69 caps, midfield player Terry Yorath has proved a reliable and talented motivator and captain of his country for the past decade. Tough-tackling and an aggressive competitor, Yorath started his career under Don Revie at Leeds. Although unable to command a regular first team place for much of his time at Elland Road, Yorath nevertheless made 133 League appearances for the club before moving on to Coventry. As captain at Highfield Road he helped to establish Coventry in the First Division after a long series of battles against relegation. Last season the blond-haired Welshman was signed by Tottenham manager Keith Burkinshaw, and his determination and will to win have proved the perfect counterbalance for the more elegant midfield skills of Ardiles, Villa and Hoddle at White Hart Lane.

GARRINCHA

REAL name Manuel Francisco Dos Santos, the legendary Brazilian right-winger was nicknamed Garrincha because he 'flew' like a Brazilian bird, bamboozling defenders with his bandy-legged runs and incredible ball control. Born on October 28th, 1936, Garrincha joined Botafogo in 1953 to become a permanent fixture in the first team. But his career peaks were the 1958 and 1962 World Cups. In Sweden he was initially only the substitute for Joel but his arrival in the third game heralded a stream of goals set up for Didi, Vava and Pelé as Brazil stormed to victory. Four years later came Garrincha's finest hour. With Pelé injured, he not only created goals but scored them as well. Two against England and two against Chile led Brazil to the Final, where they beat the Czechs 3-1. Garrincha again led Brazil in 1966 but, maybe due to his catastrophic private life, the Little Bird barely took off.



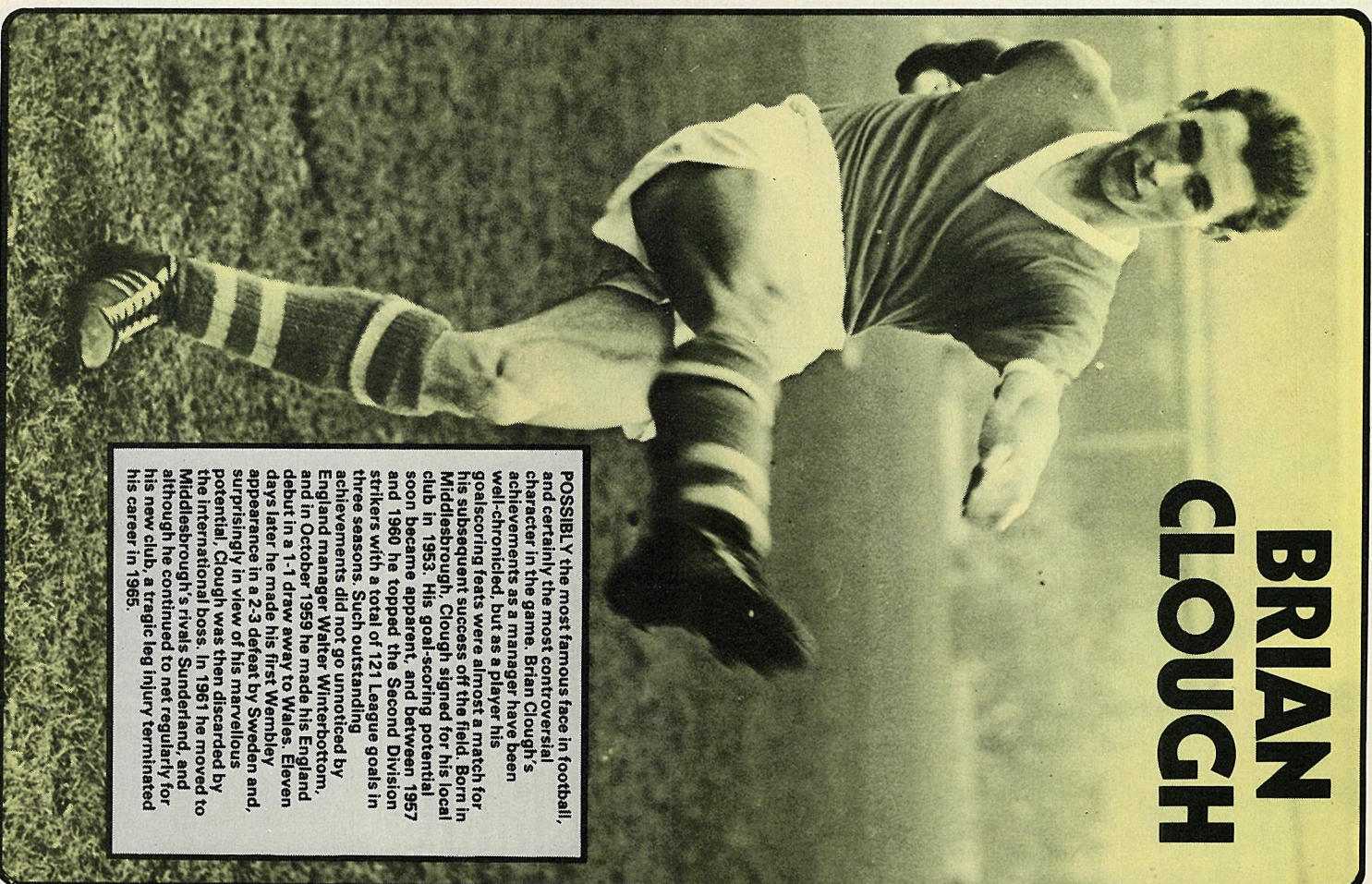
GERSON

GERSON de Oliveira Nunes, to give him his full name, was a vital inspiration of a Brazilian team that sensationally won the 1970 World Cup in Mexico. Born on January 11th, 1941, the Sao Paulo midfielder had never captured the same spectacular headlines as the likes of Pelé or Garrincha, but in the World Cup team, alongside Pelé, Tostão, Jairzinho and Rivelino, the genius of Gerson slotted perfectly into place — and it was noticeable that in his absence Brazil struggled against England and Rumania. His stylish simplicity and brilliant distribution provided the ideal balance against the individual intricacies of his team-mates, and Gerson rounded off a superb tournament by scoring the vital second goal against Italy in the Final. By the time he retired (to become a radio commentator) in 1974, Gerson had won 78 Brazilian caps.



BRIAN CLOUGH

POSSIBLY the most famous face in football, and certainly the most controversial character in the game, Brian Clough's achievements as a manager have been well-chronicled, but as a player his goalscoring feats were almost a match for his subsequent success off the field. Born in Middlesbrough, Clough signed for his local club in 1953. His goal-scoring potential soon became apparent, and between 1957 and 1960 he topped the Second Division strikers with a total of 121 League goals in three seasons. Such outstanding achievements did not go unnoticed by England manager Walter Winterbottom, and in October 1959 he made his England debut in a 1-1 draw away to Wales. Eleven days later he made his first Wembley appearance in a 2-3 defeat by Sweden and, surprisingly in view of his marvellous potential, Clough was then discarded by the international boss. In 1961 he moved to Middlesbrough's rivals Sunderland, and although he continued to net regularly for his new club, a tragic leg injury terminated his career in 1965.

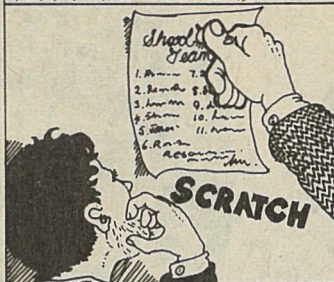


CAPTAIN GILLETTE



WINS - BY A CLOSE SHAVE!

JIM LEARNS HE'S IN THE SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM - AS KEEPER!



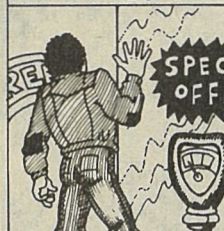
TRAINING BEGINS....



AFTERWARDS...



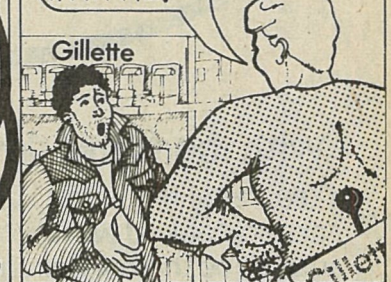
NEXT DAY BEFORE THE TEAMS FIRST MATCH, JIM VISITS THE LOCAL STORE.



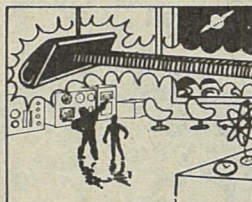
OH BOY WHAT DO I BUY FIRST?



OK, JIM, YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!



QUICKER THAN A KEEGAN KICK - JIM AND CAPTAIN GILLETTE SHOOT OFF TO G.BASE.



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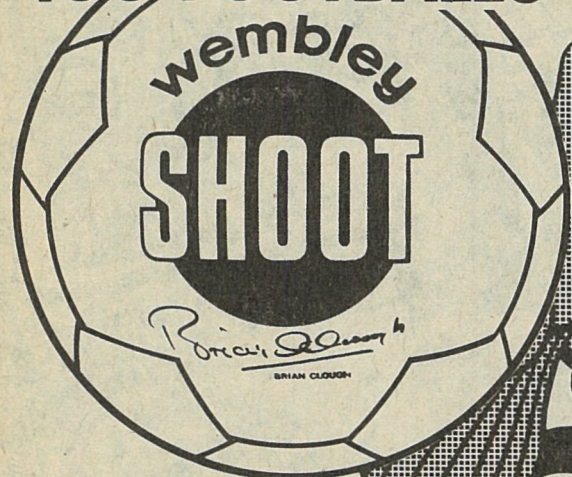
HE'S GONE! AND I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO THANK HIM.....

WELL, JIM LOOKS A LOT SMARTER... LET'S HOPE HE PLAYS TO MATCH!



WOW! ★ WHAT A CLOSE SHAVE!

100 FOOTBALLS TO BE WON



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CAPTAIN GILLETTE

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When you read the strip above, you'll notice one of the speech bubbles is marked with a star. Using your skill and judgement think of an alternative caption (in no more than 12 words please) fill it in the space shown, and send it with your name and address to: **CAPTAIN GILLETTE, FREEPOST, 21 BUCKINGHAM STREET, LONDON WC2N 6BR.** Each entrant will receive a shaving information kit, plus FREE BADGE. The one hundred entrants considered the most apt and original by the judges will receive a **WEMBLEY Brian Clough SHOOT** football. All entries please by not later than November 22nd 1980. The judges decision is final, and no correspondence can be entered into, excepting winners.

MY CAPTION IS:-

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Ideal Christmas Gifts!



'THE TRUE STORY OF OUR EURO FARCE'

I HAVE a terrible feeling that the true spirit of international football has disappeared.

The way I feel following Celtic's European Cup-Winners' Cup exit at the hands of Timisoara right now, I think we might as well pack in playing in European tournaments.

What happened in Rumania was a farce, and it was absolutely astonishing that U.E.F.A. could ban assistant-manager John Clark from official functions for the next two years and fine the club £600 when we were cheated the way we were.

Let me tell SHOOT readers about events which haven't yet come to light which will illustrate how badly Greek referee Nicolaus Iangvinus treated us.

Tartan Talk

DANNY McGRAIN



Before the 'kick-off he called me and the Rumanian captain into a room to toss the coin to choose ends. Never in my life have I heard of that before.

But strange though I thought it was, I carried on anyway and eventually lost the toss.

Then the Rumanian skipper took the ball and indicated that he would prefer to kick-off — as they did in the first-leg at Parkhead — and that we could have choice of ends.

That suited me fine, because there was a strong wind blowing and I wanted it at out backs in the first half, as I told the ref.

But after the pre-match kick-in the amazing Greek official told us to change ends and said that we would be playing into the wind because we had lost the toss.

I protested strongly, but it was only the first of several outrageous decisions that were to follow, not least of which was Roddie MacDonald and Frank McGarvey being sent-off for nothing.

The Rumanian nightmare will never be forgotten, and those concerned will never be forgiven as far

Frank McGarvey was one of two Celtic players sent-off in Rumania as the club went out of the European Cup-Winners' Cup to Timisoara.

as I am concerned.

Meanwhile, let's forget about that just now and get down to some chat about what has been happening at Parkhead.

It's time I mentioned the amazing Bobby Lennox again. The Lemon is back in training again after being out since the beginning of the season with a bad injury.

And that word training should be double under-lined.

After eight weeks out he got right back down to it with 100-yard sprints and three-mile jogs ... although the way the wee man works at it I guess the jogs are more like sprints too.

He really is the fittest guy at the club, and I remember asking him

after a game at the beginning of October whether he was going out that night.

Not Lemon — he was going home to Saltcoats on the Ayrshire coast to do some training on the beach. Dedicated? He is unbelievable.

The bad news is about our young goalkeeper Davie Robertson, who has had to go in for a cartilage operation.

He is only 17 and was worried when they said a knee cut was worse than at first thought and that an operation was on the cards.

But I want Davie — and other young players in the same position — to know that it is much easier having that op done in your teens when the muscles are strong and healthy than later on at my advanced stage!

So don't worry Davie!

Chance

On the international front, Scotland missed a chance to go to the top of our World Cup qualifying group when we were held to a 0-0 draw by Portugal at Hampden.

It really was a case of just how long the Portuguese 'keeper Bento could keep us at bay, because we deserved to win by a hatful.

Some of the saves he made, in particular those from Kenny Dalglish, Graeme Souness and Andy Gray, defied description.

In reality we have to look upon this result as a point dropped as opposed to a point gained, because we cannot afford to let any home points slip away at this early stage.

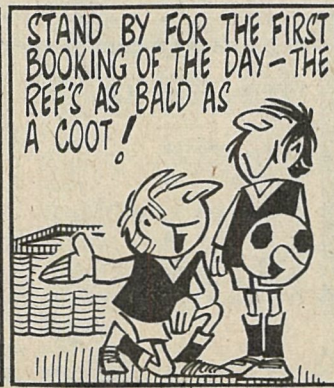
Nevertheless, manager Jock Stein has got us on the right lines for Spain in 1982.



Danny McGrain

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN TALK BY RANGERS' DEREK JOHNSTONE

NOBBY



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WHEN YOU NEED TO FLEX YOUR MUSCLES.

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THERE can be nobody who can claim that Sheffield Wednesday's return to the Second Division has been anything other than eventful.

On the first day of the season the club witnessed ugly scenes between visiting Newcastle supporters and the police, then came the ignominy at Oldham three weeks later when the hooligan element among Wednesday's own 'fans' brought shame to the club.

At various stages on the field, manager Jack Charlton has been robbed of some of his more experienced personalities — men such as Terry Curran, Andy McCulloch, Dave Grant, Brian Hornsby and Jeff Johnson.

Teenagers Charlie Williamson, John Pearson, Gavin Oliver, Phil Campbell and Kevin Taylor have all been called up to the side as

mely well, and he certainly takes his responsibility very seriously.

"We work on things during the week and I ask him, as captain, to try to implement those ideas and to stimulate the other players' enthusiasm. We certainly don't need to motivate Mike. All I can ask of him is to continue to carry on such a fine job."

Pickering, who maintains that the biggest influence on his career was Alan Ball when the two were together at Southampton, is an all-round sportsman.

As the more experienced players return to the side and the youngsters prepare to play their part when necessary, Sheffield Wednesday can emerge as major promotion contenders.

In Mike Pickering they have the ideal leader to help them forget their troubled start to the season.

Wednesday's anchor man

Mike Pickering

replacements.

Yet despite all the traumas, Sheffield Wednesday have made an impressive start to the season, and are presently handily placed around the top of the table after an encouraging run of results.

One of the major reasons for such a fine start has been the presence of Mike Pickering in the centre of the Wednesday defence.

Signed from Southampton for £65,000 last season, 23-year-old Pickering has already played in all four Divisions of the League after an early spell with Barnsley.

Charlton actually signed Pickering without ever having watched him in action. "Lawrie McMenemy told me he had an extra centre-half after signing Dave Watson, and that one of them would have to go," he explained.

"Mike was the odd-man-out, but Lawrie told me that he was a terrific competitor and a good, clean-living lad.

"Naturally I asked a few people about him, and they all confirmed he was a good buy for that sort of money. He did a great job for us last season ... he is the kind of player who never gives in.

"There were signs that he was getting on to players in the wrong sort of way, so we gave him the authority of the captaincy in order to help him understand the problems of the other players as well as his own.

"The move has worked extre-



Less entertainment from away-day Wrexham

IN their third season in Division Two since promotion, Wrexham are learning to remedy a vital weakness.

According to their international goalkeeper, Dai Davies, the Welsh club have suffered from trying to play too much football on away grounds. Now the accent is less on entertaining and more on picking up points.

Says Dai: "We've had such a lack of success when travelling that we've decided to tighten up in away games, in the same way that teams play against us when we are at home.

"It's a shame, because we don't enjoy being negative — but our record on other grounds left us with no alternative."

Emphasises

The fact that Wrexham had gone 23 away matches without a win until their victory over Derby County at the Baseball Ground in September emphasises Davies' concern over his team's away performances. Now he is hoping they will continue to improve.

"I rated Derby as the big test, and we came through it convincingly. Derby, along with Blackburn, get my vote as two sides who will be very much involved in the promotion race, which may not be as open as last season.

"At the Racecourse Ground, the attitude is just right for us to make a decisive challenge to get among the leading clubs in the Second Division.

"We've a new stand, carried out various ground improvements, and the directors are unanimous in their wish to see Wrexham go far.

"Getting out of the Second Division will be our hardest job of all — we are well aware of this being a more difficult task than winning the Third Division.

"But it's in the First Division that the rewards are so much greater, making it worth all the efforts to get there. The top class is where we want to be.

"Going through our playing pool, I think we've the men to take us into one of the League's top spots.

"If we did reach the First Division it would be some sort of justice for Dixie McNeil — I consider him a real professional in every way, and unlucky not to be playing in the highest class."

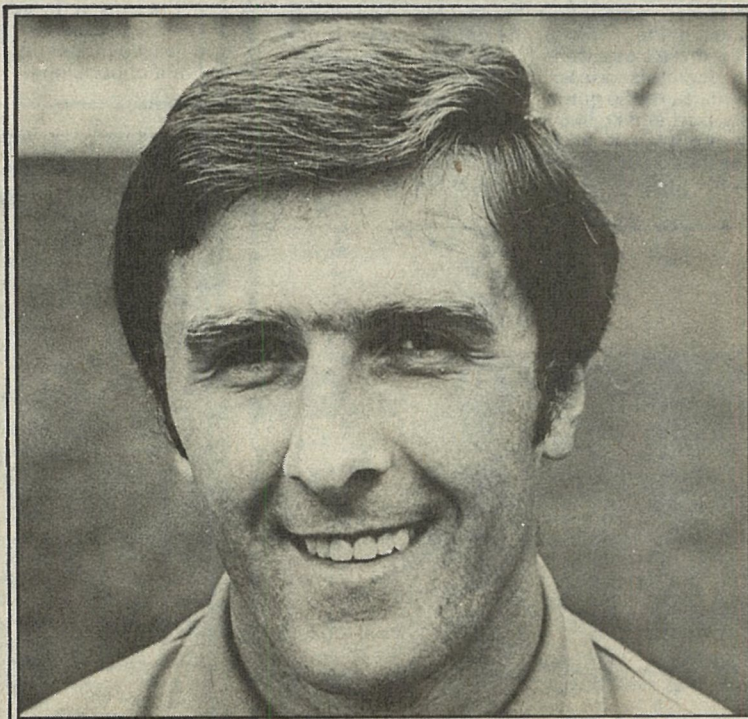
While Davies is concerned about the advancement of his club, he regards his appearances for Wales as a bonus in his career.

"I've played nearly 40 times for my country, and it has been a great experience. The atmosphere at the big grounds for international games is supercharged, and the thrill of being part of it never wears off.

"That goes for being selected for Wales — I never count myself as being a certain choice, and I'm always delighted when I'm in the line-up.

"Mike England's first game in charge of Wales was against England in the British Championship, and our win that day was a tremendous start for him. The feeling among the Welsh players is that we can qualify for the World Cup under his leadership.

"But my chief ambition is to keep as many clean sheets as possible for Wrexham between now and the end of the season."



THE financial situation is worrying everyone in the game. But in the Third and Fourth Divisions, I feel part-time players may be near. And although people will hold up their hands in horror, I'm not sure it won't be the best for a great many clubs.



It clearly cannot go on much longer as it is at present. Gates bear no relation to the money clubs have to pay out each week, and it has to be rectified. The way it's going right now, it would be an advantage to some clubs to go part-time. It could mean the difference between staying in business and folding up.

Everyone else is being forced to be realistic, simply because of the economic plight in business. Why should footballers and clubs be any different? The salaries players expect are often absurd in these times of recession, and something has to give. It's as simple as that.

'PART-TIME PLAYERS ON THE WAY'

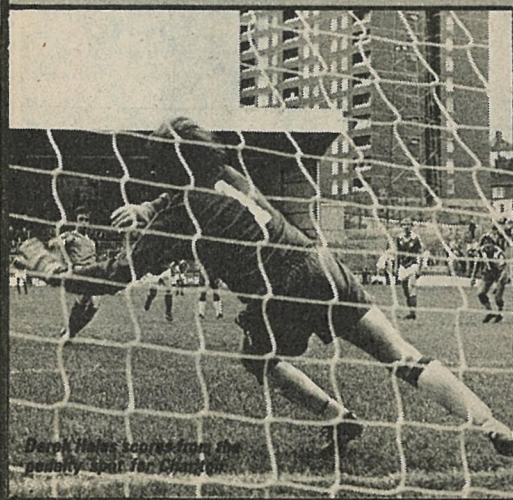
Mike Bailey
Charlton manager

Anyone who takes a sensible outlook can see the money just isn't there at almost every club — apart from the Manchester Uniteds and Liverpools. And how many of those are there these days?

We all tend to think that is someone else's problem, but football may be hit harder than any other business, because it has further to fall. Reality has gone out of the window at many clubs in recent years.

Managers getting the sack is nothing new in the game, even though several have been fired this season. That won't change, although you've got to say that the dismissal of people like Jimmy Adamson and Bill McGarry after a handful of games is ridiculous even by football's standards. The only thing I can say is that we, as managers, know what to expect. It's a fact of life whatever the rights or wrongs of it.

If there's one thing I'd like to see happen in football this season, it's the return of the families to the game. Football needs more support and I'd like to see wives and kids brought to games. If special areas are needed for their safety, let's create them. And, at the same time, drive out the louts we don't need.



Derby Hales scores from the penalty spot for Charlton.

Five leading soccer personalities talk to SHOOT about the good and bad of...

I'm greatly encouraged by one aspect of life I've found in the Fourth Division; that clubs are giving youth a chance. It may be because current economics force them to do so, but there are certainly a lot of very



David Webb Bournemouth player-coach

promising kids around the Fourth Division clubs.

I believe there are young players in the Fourth Division now of such quality and high standard that they could walk into several First Division clubs straightaway. Maybe that's a sad indictment of current times, because I don't think Division One is anything like as good as it was.

You open your eyes when you look around at

players in all Divisions, and even outside the Football League. Frankly, I've been more impressed by several players in non-League clubs than I have by others on the fringes of

First Division teams. There is much more enthusiasm and pride for the game in those players.

We are seeing more and more young lads climbing back into League football after being discarded. Players like Alan Devonshire, Cyrille Regis and Garry Birtles and many more are proving the point.

I am particularly concerned about one aspect of the game. I fear that everyone, whether it be

'MORE NON-BREAKING

ALREADY this season, there have been a lot of good games, and that's encouraging. I've seen plenty of good football played, too, so that has to be a step in the right direction.

Gates are the obvious problem, nationwide, and one thing is certain — it isn't going to be easy to get people to come back to football when times are bad economically.

But those sides playing attractive football will have much more chance than those boring teams, and that's why I feel we MUST play attractively — our livelihood is at stake.

Another element which has disappointed me at the start of the season is the attitude of referees. It seems that as soon as a new directive is sent out by the authorities, we get a flood of bookings.



'ENCOURAGED

Ron Atkinson
West Brom manager

I'm sure rather more common sense by referees would be the ideal answer to problems on the field. Players need discipline, certainly, but a little common sense can go an awful long way.

Everybody in football, from managers through to coaches, players and administrators, must be more realistic in their wage demands. If the money is not coming in through the gates, you can't take more out of the club than it's earning. But that seems to be happening and it has to alter.

The point that two major factors not involved with the actual playing of football are deeply

FOR me, the key factor of the season is the link developing between crowds and the sides which entertain people by playing attractive football.

Those who score goals will be able to get through the difficult times. Sides which don't make an effort to play the kind of football people want to see will be in for trouble.

Generally, I'd say it's been a promising start to the season. Plenty of goals have been scored, and much of the football played has been entertaining. I believe it's up to the players and managers to get the crowds interested by playing exciting football.

I'm encouraged by the absence of the tackle from behind. That has really died in recent seasons and it's good. It breaks up the flow of



'LESS TACKLING

Alan Devonshire

the game, and stifles the talents of the skilled players.

But referees could still be more strict because there are plenty of players around who look to stop, often illegally, the talented players. Referees have a difficult job and I'm the first to admit that, but I think if they stamped their authority a bit more firmly early in matches, it would help. I remember Willie Young's tackle on Paul Allen in last season's F.A. Cup Final (pictured right). As long as a player can get away with this sort of thing, he will continue to use such illegal methods.

I feel the sacking of managers is now just a part of the game, and has to be accepted as such. Managers are really no different to players; if we're not doing it out on the park,

THE SEASON SO FAR

LEAGUE STARS THROUGH'

directors, managers, coaches or players, are not seeing the wind of change within the profession. It's certainly blowing and we cannot run away from it; we must face reality.

Certain other points bother me. The enjoyment has gone out of the game at many levels, especially in the First Division. There is too much pressure and, whether the two are linked or not, the standard has dropped dramatically. I always tell the youngsters at my club, 'go out and enjoy the game, because if you enjoy it the people watching you will get enjoyment.' But that doesn't seem to apply in the First Division, and that's worrying.

Overall, I'm much more encouraged by what I've seen in the Fourth Division this season than by what I've seen in the First Division in the last five years.



BY SO MANY GOOD GAMES'



involved in its success or failure, must be worrying. I'm referring to the economic recession and crowd problems. These are real problems within the game, and although the crowd violence is serious, I don't think I'm alone in believing that economy is just as serious at the moment.

But the playing side this season has been encouraging. I've seen some terrific games, and there seems to have been plenty of goals scored. That's heartening, because we need a high level of entertainment to enable us to survive the other problems.

My biggest fear? Gates, and the lack of them. It is going to be difficult for some time, and there is no escaping that fact.

When you see clubs with such an amazing following as Liverpool struggling for support, it makes you realise that nobody is safe from the terrible effects unemployment is having.

FROM BEHIND'

West Ham star



we run the risk of being taken off or, perhaps even worse, released by our clubs.

That's happened to a lot of players who might be less well known, but it has happened. Managers are like players — under pressure because of the big business football has become. It's just a hazard of the job and something managers and players have to learn to live with. The striker who isn't scoring goals is under just as much pressure as the manager who isn't getting results.

The performance of the national side is important, too, to lift everyone. It happened after 1966; if England can do well in the near future, as I feel certain they can with so many good players around, it must help the game in general.

The problems? Hooliganism is the obvious one and it's caused by the way the country is at present. I fear it will always be with us because a lot of it comes from boredom. But we must reduce it to almost negligible proportions.

It is the game's biggest problem, and must be our first priority.

As far as Scottish football is concerned, we are already reaping the benefits of playing so many young players at international level in the past 18 months.

The youngsters who are staking claims for regular places in the Scottish side should form the basis for the next five or six years, and that kind of continuity is immensely encouraging.

If they maintain their improvement, the Scottish team has the potential to become a very good one. Getting success in the first game of the World Cup in Sweden helped them tremendously and we should now go on to qualify for Spain, 1982, if we play to our full potential.

I'm greatly heartened by the showing of so many young players in Scottish football at the start of this season. They have shown how good they are not only at international level but also within the clubs, and are emerging. That



'YOUNG SCOTS' FORM PLEASES ME'

Jock Stein
Scotland manager



has to be good for the future of the game in Scotland — and I mean players like Charlie Nicholas of Celtic (above) and John MacDonald of Rangers. That's without mentioning the Aberdeen's great kids.

What it means is that although there will always be big star names leaving for England — like Steve Archibald — youngsters are following them of sufficient class.

I'm worried about the smaller crowds, but it's only logical when you look at the current economic situation. Sport will be the first thing affected in such times, that's only natural.

As regards the casualty rate among managers, I think I'm right in saying directors are a bit more patient up here; we don't seem to be as ruthless as in England, where it's reaching an absurd level. We accept that only certain clubs can win honours because there are few honours to go around, so managers probably get more of a chance in Scotland.

We had an understandable 'down' spell after the disaster of the last World Cup. But now, I feel sure we are on the upward slope and I believe we are more realistic with regard to international football.

If the national side is doing well, people can forget many of their domestic problems and lean on that fact. That is why it is important for the national side to continue to improve.

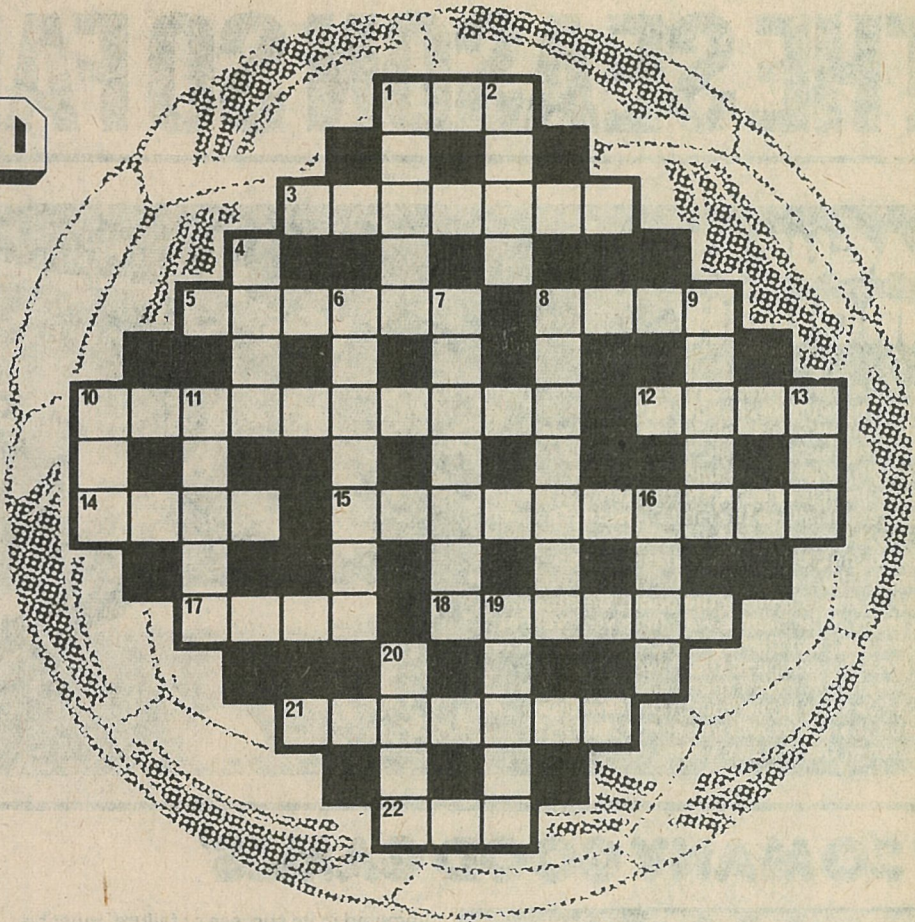
ON THE BALL CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- (1) West Ham are the F.A. --- holders. (3)
- (3) --- Palace play at Selhurst Park. (7)
- (5) The ref does this before each game. (4,2)
- (8) Now an English Fourth Division club who won the F.A. Cup in 1900 & 1903. (4)
- (10) Footballer of the Year 1967/68. (6,4)
- (12) Andy ---, Wolves striker. (4)
- (14) Steve ---, Watford defender. (4)
- (15) Liverpool central defender. (4,6)
- (17) Ma - ch - - - er United play at Old Trafford. (4)
- (18) Worked for. (6)
- (21) European Footballer of the Year, 1965. (Born in Mozambique and capped many times by Portugal). (7)
- (22) Mervyn ---, Orient 'keeper. (3)

DOWN:

- (1) Take the first letters of each word in York City, Peterborough United & Orient to make the name of a rodent. (5)
- (2) --- - eard; Aston Villa defender. (4)
- (4) Number of clubs in the Scottish League whose names start with the letter "C". (4)
- (6) Jim ---, Middlesbrough 'keeper. (7)
- (7) Train or get ready. (7)
- (8) Terry --- of Ipswich Town. (7)
- (9) The playing area is measured in them. (5)
- (10) -illing-m play at Priestfield Stadium. (3)
- (11) Russell ---, Ipswich defender. (5)
- (13) Longing for money from Japan. (3)
- (16) David --- ham, Nottingham Forest defender. (4)
- (19) --- Stadium of Cambridge United. (5)
- (20) Employed. (4)



ANSWERS ON PAGE 46

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BENTO'S REVENGE

THREE years ago Manuel Bento left Anfield after a European Cup match for Benfica against Liverpool

By KEN GALLACHER

with jeers ringing in his ears. Over the two legs of the Quarter-Final tie he had conceded six goals and been blamed for most of them.

On October 15 he returned to Britain as Portugal's goalkeeper against Scotland and took his revenge.

For the small 'keeper with the baggy pants defied Scotland in the 0-0 draw and almost single-handedly made certain that 60,000 fans filed away silently from Hampden with new worries over their World Cup group.

It was Bento who saved superbly from a Kenny Dalglish shot on the turn soon after half-time.

It was Bento, again, who somehow reached a drive from Dalglish's Liverpool team-mate Graeme Souness soon after.

Marvellous

And it was Bento once more who hurled himself to hold a marvellous diving header from Dalglish.

The 32-year-old goalkeeper, captain for the night, had his finest game for his country.

Afterwards the Portuguese coach Juca admitted: "We could not have hoped for a better result — and it was due to Bento."

"I made him captain because he was the most experienced player we had available and he repaid me. It was his greatest night."

A disconsolate Scots boss Jock Stein added: "One or two of our lads didn't rate him particularly highly. I suppose they all had these memories of the six goals he lost against Liverpool."

"But I knew he was good. Quick and agile. He had one of those marvellous nights that goalkeepers sometimes have. It was too bad for us he had it at Hampden."

The result threw the section open — as open

as it was always expected to be. Coupled with Northern Ireland's three-goal win over

Sweden it stressed that the group will boil down to a three-country chase for the two final places.

Juca was an international wing-half and played for his country when they defeated England in Oporto 25 years ago.

He recalls: "We won 3-1 and that was my best memory as a player. Now, as manager, I want to take Portugal to the Finals."

Before the Scotland game he had worried over his missing players. The full-back, Alberto, was out with a leg break. Humberto, the powerful central defender, had a groin strain, while midfield general Alves was left at home because of business and personal problems.

Yet his team defended bravely and well. Understandably Jock Stein was not happy at the way they did play.

He pointed out: "That's not the real Portugal. They defended by packing their penalty box and I don't think I'd like us to play that way."

"We did everything we could to break them down. We did make half a dozen good chances, but we found the goalkeeper a bit special."

"It's a good result for them, but it's not the end of the world for us. There is a long way to go and this is a tough section. Everyone is taking points from each other."

"It would have been good to win at home and establish a lead in the group, but we do have three points from two games, and that isn't a bad start."

It isn't, especially when you consider the next four Scots fixtures — Israel in Tel Aviv in February; Northern Ireland at Hampden in March; Israel at Hampden in April and then Sweden at Hampden in September.

If Hampden victories can be obtained and a win in Israel is forthcoming, then the question of Scotland qualifying could be settled.

As Stein says: "There is quite a way to go yet!"



Can Stanton save Cowden?

MORE than a few eyebrows were raised when ex-Hibernian, Celtic and Scotland star Pat Stanton accepted the job as manager of little Second Division side Cowdenbeath in August this year.

The former stylish midfielder who helped Alex Ferguson guide Aberdeen to the Premier Division title last season as The Dons' manager's second in command looked to be all set for a bright future at Pittodrie.

"I had decided a long time before I stopped playing that I wanted to be a manager in my own right," he says.

"Any manager worth his salt would admit that sometimes it's best to start at the bottom, and with no disrespect to Cowdenbeath I think that taking charge of a lesser-known team is as tough a test as managing an old firm or a big provincial side."

"I know it's not exactly Real Madrid standard, but I am being paid to do a job and I will do the job of managing Cowdenbeath to the best of my ability," he says.

Ability is the key word for Stanton, because he will need an abundance of talent to pull "Cowden" out of the doldrums which have seen attendances dwindle to their lowest level ever at the club's Central Park Stadium.

Ecstatic

The Fifers celebrate their Centenary next year and promotion on their 100th birthday would make the Cowdenbeath faithful ecstatic, as they have had little to shout about recently.

There is little to win Cowdenbeath a place in any soccer record book, but a few promising results recently have seen a late sale in unsold season tickets bought by curious members of the Town's inhabitants.

It's an anxious time for the Cowden board of directors, looking for a successful man to succeed Andy Matthews, who brought their one promotion place to the club for the first time in 40 years during his short four-year stay between 1970 and 74.

Since 1974, five managers have tried and failed to restore Cowdenbeath to former glories.

The fans who rejected Cowden after Stanton's predecessor Paddy Wilson resigned are slowly gaining new interest in their team.

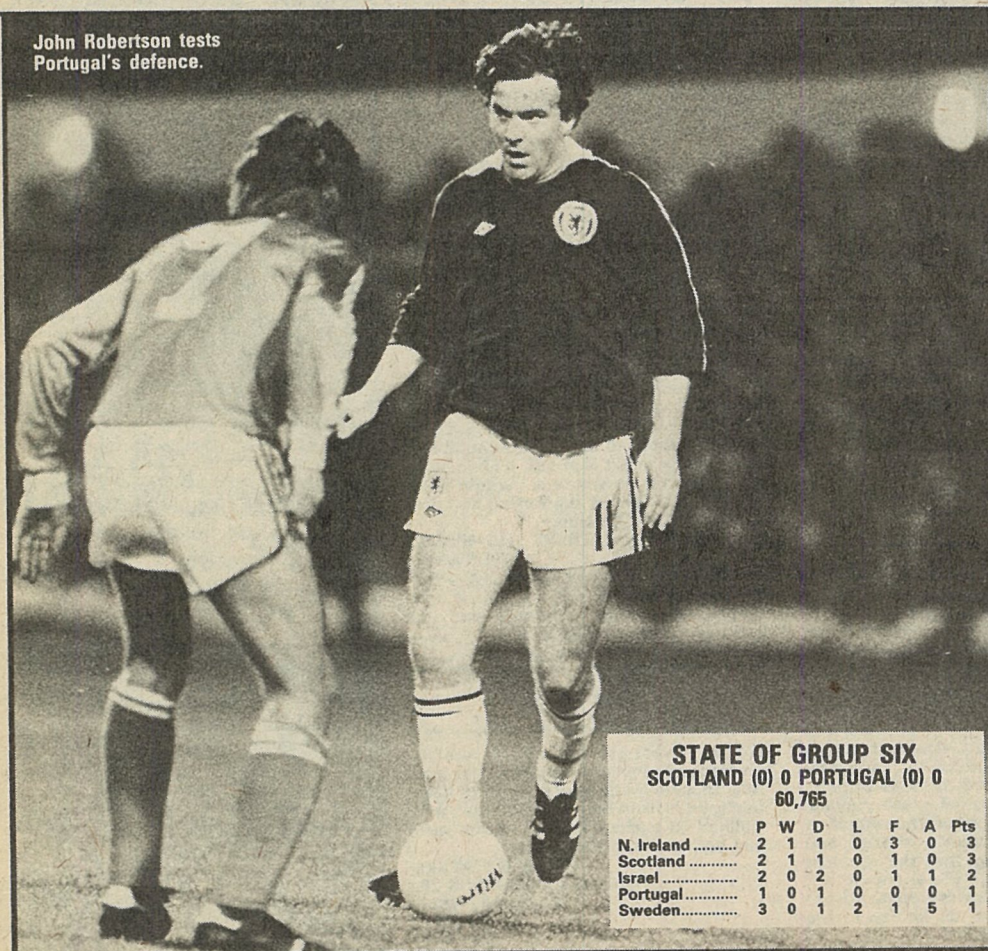
Stanton's new side is initially a young one with the average age being 22 with the oldest player on the staff hobbling in at the ripe old age of 26!

Only striker Billy Steele and left-back Jim Markey have enough experience of League football to be of any real help to the club's youngsters.

Steele has seen service with Rangers, Dundee United and Dumbarton while Markey played with Clyde and Cowden's near neighbours, Dumfermline Athletic before moving to the old mining town six miles away in 1977.

Whatever happens to Cowden's fortunes in 1980/81 it will be a season Pat Stanton is hardly liable to forget — whether he's a success or a failure.

John Robertson tests Portugal's defence.



STATE OF GROUP SIX SCOTLAND (0) 0 PORTUGAL (0) 0 60,765

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
N. Ireland.....	2	1	1	0	3	0	3
Scotland.....	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Israel.....	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Portugal.....	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Sweden.....	3	0	1	2	1	5	1

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All letters must be exclusive to SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from M. Sayer of St. Austell, Cornwall, who wins our Special Prize of £10. He writes:

THE ANSWER TO HOOLIGANISM

★ We can take for granted that soccer is the best supported sport in the country, but the question is why? What makes people pay well-earned money to watch 22 grown men kicking a bit of air-filled leather about? The answer must be simplicity.

Let's take the typical (to use a Gordon McQueen cliché) mindless moron. Let's forget about the 80 minutes of the match where our thug is offering his boot around for rival fans to clean their teeth on, and concentrate on the remaining ten minutes where he actually watches the match.

He knows (just) the basic rules, except for perhaps offside (who does?), but then that's always a good reason to criticise the referee.

So, logically, if we make soccer more complicated, our mindless moron will either not turn up to the match, or, concentrate on the game for the full 90 minutes.

Therefore, during the next close season, the F.A. (and we're all sure that they can do this really well) can make up as many idiotic and confusing rules as possible.

If this method, for some reason did not work, then a second phase could be brought in.

Has it never struck you why there is never any violence in rugby crowds? Surely it's because everyone's too busy waiting to see violent incidents on the field.

Therefore if soccer was made more violent, the fighting would occur on and not off the pitch.

Incentive should be given for violent and dangerous play. For example, the guilty team could be given a free-kick ten yards forward for a particular nasty foul.

Penalties could be awarded if an opponent was carried off due to violent play.

If these few, simple changes were made to soccer, it would transform it into a far superior game; it would cut out hooliganism, and would allow people to return to the game for some good family entertainment.

● Hooliganism shouldn't really be treated so light-heartedly — although everything else seems to have failed!

Hefty fine

BOB WILSON asked "Match of the Day" viewers how to stamp out the cynical "professional" foul. The response was more or less equally divided between sending the player off, and awarding a goal.

To my mind, this would not stamp out the foul, merely discourage it.

A practical suggestion would be that if, in the referee's mind, a player commits a "professional" foul, a goal should be awarded (no matter where the foul took place) the offender sent-off, and suspended for a minimum of two months.

For the second offence in a season, the offender should be suspended for 20 matches and fined several thousand pounds.

If this rule was introduced, no player outside the lunatic fringe would bother hacking down an opponent.

DAVID REUBEN,
LONDON.

● Referees CAN send-off players who commit the unprofessional foul, but rarely do so. I think this would be a better idea than your somewhat extreme suggestion.

Refs help Rangers

IF Rangers fail to win the League this season, it will be through no fault of referees or football authorities, who have bent over backwards to help them.

Against Airdrie, Celtic and Dundee United, referees' decisions have earned Rangers four to five points. Even in the League Cup against Forfar, Rangers were awarded three penalties and a retake on a penalty which was missed.

The authorities have also shown their true colours, by banning Willie Johnston for one game, after Willie was sent-off for stamping on an Aberdeen player's throat; "Previous records are not taken into account under new rules" we were told. Yet Roy Aitken, sent-off for two "small" fouls (his only fouls in the game) against Hearts, was suspended for four games "because of his previous bad record."



Willie Johnston

If Rangers were subtracted ten points at the end of each season (the approximate number of points referees award Rangers per season) their record would not be quite as impressive.

PETER REEVES,
GLASGOW.

● Rangers could claim Aberdeen were awarded a penalty that wasn't in the League Cup. You wouldn't be a Celtic supporter, by any chance?

K.K. not in Pelé's League

YOU stated that with no disrespect to Pelé, readers would prefer to see a cover page bearing England's captain (Kevin Keegan) on SHOOT's Booklet "All-Time Greats".

From what is said, it seems to me that Keegan should be given precedence over Pelé because he is British.

When one thinks of great players, there should be no importance attached as regards to their country of origin and I find it astounding that the greatest footballer of all-time (Pelé) should not be the central character on the front cover (which would do justice to the title of the booklet).

The presence of Keegan's picture on the cover implies that he is a great player, which of course he is not.

Personally I do not think Keegan is even close to being in Pelé's league, past or present.



Kevin Keegan

PAULINE GOODE,
LONDON.

● I agree with your last statement, but then few players are in Pelé's league. I do, however, feel that Keegan has done enough during his career with Liverpool, Hamburger SV and England to warrant a place on our booklet cover... whatever size.

Doc's beliefs

IN SHOOT dated 11th October, Tommy Docherty is quoted as saying that his new Q.P.R. signing Andy King is in Ray Wilkins' class.

Does this mean that The Doc believes that King cannot tackle, trap a ball or head, as he said about Wilkins not so long ago?

CONOR GILLIGAN,
BELFAST.

● We shouldn't speak ill of the 'departed'... even if it's applicable!

Forget the riot

WHEN I read your Club Spotlight on Sheffield Wednesday I was disgusted that Spotlight was totally devoted to the hooligans who ruined the game against Oldham Athletic.

Usually when I read the Club Spotlights I expect to see something about the team which it is about. If I had been the person who wrote it I would have forgotten all about the rioting and just spoken about the club.

ALBERT THOMPSON,
NORWICH.

● The punishment handed out to Wednesday by the F.A. was an historic one. The incident surely could not be ignored, unsavoury as it was.

Pen-pal

I'M a 17-year-old girl and I support Liverpool, Manchester United, Ajax and Bayern. I would be very pleased to have pen friends from England, Germany and Holland to exchange ideas about football and all the other sports.

MARY STRATAKI,
AGIAS PARASKEVIS 28,
KATO PATISSIA,
ATHENS,
GREECE.

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Replays

What is the greatest number of replays needed in an F.A. Cup-tie?

BRYAN ROOTES,
SAFFRON WALDEN

● Well, Bryan, Arsenal and Liverpool had a bit of a marathon with four attempts needed to settle their Semi-Final only last season.

But best (or worst!) of all was a Fourth Qualifying Round tie between Alvechurch and Oxford City in 1971-72.

It took five replays — six games (with extra-time) lasting 11 hours in all — before Alvechurch eventually got through 1-0.

Peacock sub

Who was the first-ever substitute to come on in a Football League game?

BEN WILKS,
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

● He was Charlton's Keith Peacock, Ben, and he came on 13 minutes after the start of their Second Division game at Bolton on 21st August, 1965 — the first day on which subs were permitted in the Football League.

Peacock, incidentally, remained a loyal Charlton stalwart for nearly another 14 years — finishing-up in April, 1979 with nearly 600 first team games to his credit.

Non-League Cup winners

Has any non-League club ever won the F.A. Cup?

ANNA MERRIMAN,
WILTSHIRE

● Yes, Anna — no less than 18 of them! Mind you, the first 17 winners had to be — because there were that number of F.A. Cup Finals before the Football League kicked-off in 1888.

Since then, though, only Spurs — winners in 1901 when still in the Southern League — have done so.

But Sheffield Wednesday (1890), and Southampton (1900 and 1902), both reached the Final before becoming members of the Football League.

SHORT PASSES

● Nat Lofthouse scored both goals in Bolton's 2-0 win over Manchester United in the 1958 F.A. Cup Final. (GARY COCKERELL, Bolton)

● First international at Wembley was a 1-1 draw between England and Scotland on 12th April, 1924. (COLIN FINNEY, Sheffield)

● Leeds' record win is a 10-0 Elland Road defeat of Lyn Oslo in the European Cup on 17th September, 1969.

(PETER ROOS, Finland)

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WEST BROM

BACK ROW (left-to-right): Alistair Robertson, Brendon Batson, Martyn Bennett, Cyrille Regis, Mark Grew, Tony Godden, Ally

Brown, John Deehan, Garry Monaghan.
FRONT ROW: Mike Brown (a



WREXHAM ALBION

Pendrey, Barry Cowdrill, Derek
assistant-manager), David Mills,

John Trewick, Remi Moses, John Wile, Ron Atkinson (man-
ager), Bryan Robson, Gary Owen, Peter Barnes, Derek Statham,
Richard Roberts (physio).

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LAST SEASON'S RECORD: First Division: Tenth. F.A. Cup: Third Round. Football League Cup: Fourth Round. U.E.F.A. Cup: First Round. Club Shop: Albion Club Shop, Birmingham Road, West Bromwich, Staffs.

RON Atkinson is confident he can steer his beloved West Bromwich Albion to the same dizzy heights scaled by Leeds United a decade ago.

He settles for Leeds, preferring not to compare the burgeoning talents of his young First Division side with that of mighty Liverpool on the grounds that the Midland town of West Bromwich lacks much of the passion and deep seated soccer tradition enjoyed on Merseyside.

He is happier aligning the development of his team with that of Leeds when Billy Bremner, Allan Clarke, Paul Madeley, Norman Hunter and Terry Cooper were winning headlines.

Few would argue with his choice of club for comparison having seen Albion climb to a challenging position in the First Division this season and knock two clubs out of the League Cup.

He takes pleasure from reminding those weak on statistics that seven of his side have represented England at Under-21 level, namely Derek Statham, Remi Moses, Gary Owen, John Deehan, Cyrille Regis, and Peter Barnes and Bryan Rob-



son, both of whom have also won full international caps.

Defender John Trewick is only 22, Tony Godden 23, Brendon Batson 26, and two experienced players Ally Brown and John Wile, are only 28 and 33 respectively.

If Atkinson can keep his current squad together he estimates that in three or four years time they will achieve their full potential.

Meanwhile, he is happy with the performances of a club which has lost only a handful of the last 30-odd League Games after struggling with injuries, loss of form and a period of adjustment for new players early last season.

Yet despite that record, West Brom's manager is critical of the side's consistency. "I'm talking about individual performances in games, players having a golden patch and then disappearing. I am striving to get more and more out of my players."

Cyrille Regis has a big part to play in the future of both West Bromwich Albion and England.

The inconsistency of Peter Barnes and Cyrille Regis, two of the most dangerous forwards in the country, is a particular headache.

"There are some managers who would not tolerate Barnes at any price," he maintains. "I will. When he turns on the brilliance he is the best player in the country. It's a risk worth taking — and he's getting more and more consistent."

"Regis reminds me of Martin Chivers," says Atkinson. "Power, pace, vision and an ability to tear a defence to shreds and score a goal from nowhere. But I think he lacks confidence at times."

Excited

Both players will feature heavily in Albion's and England's plans in the next few seasons. But The Hawthorns boss is equally excited about the progress of Bryan Robson, a player with the all-round skills to be used in several roles at club or international level.

"He is a good tackler, gets totally involved, and can play in midfield going forward or drop back to become a defensive anchor. I'm confident he could sweep at the back in the style of

ALBION FOLLOW LEEDS' EXAMPLE



Peter Barnes, one of the most exciting players in the country on his day.

Beckenbauer," claims Atkinson.

Albion's strength is clearly their exceptional depth of talent. David Mills and John Deehan, two expensive signings from Middlesbrough and Aston Villa, have failed to win regular first team places yet refrain from seeking transfers whenever they are chosen for the "Stiffs".

They offer a sharp reminder to first team regulars that anything less than first class performances will cost them their places. Barry Cowdrill, a brilliant young left-back, and Martin Bennett, a centre-half, are two other players serving a gentle warning to Statham and Wile that first team football is not their sole prerogative.

Albion took 19 players on a pre-season tour to Yugoslavia, 14 of them born after 1957 to indicate the presence of a rich crop of young players at The Hawthorns.

"I want to do what Leeds did," emphasises Atkinson. "Revie's squad grew-up together and when that club reached its peak, the majority were around 27."

Albion are challenging heavily for their first League title for 60 years, and have already mounted a stiff challenge in the League Cup after disposing of Leicester and Everton.

Observers reckon Albion could be a fair bet for Cup glory this season, even if it takes a season or so before they produce the panache and consistency to win the League.

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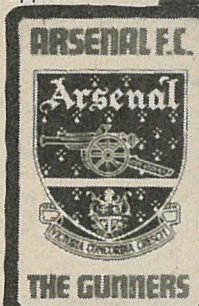
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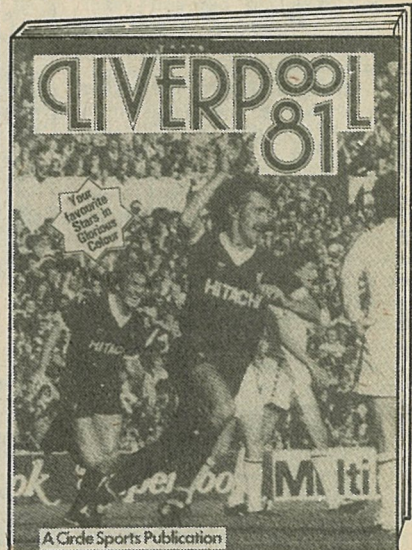
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TROUBLE AT BARCELONA

STORIES of internal troubles at Barcelona are so regular that they barely seem news any more!

Their current boss Ladislao Kubala (right) is their ninth in the last five years, and by the time you read this, even he may have gone!

Barcelona's problems started with a 'normal' 2-1 defeat at Gijón's difficult Molinon stadium, but the cat was really let among the pigeons when Valencia arrived at the Nou Camp without Mario Kempes . . . and won 3-0!

Barcelona president Josep Lluís Nuñez added fuel to the incipient flames by remarking: "Barcelona won't win anything until there are fewer newspapers in the city," trying his traditional tactic of blaming everything on the local Press.

The fans lost their patience even more when Barcelona only managed

...AGAIN

to beat Sliema Wanderers of Malta 1-0, thanks to a highly dubious penalty decision — and Nuñez had to be escorted by police from the ground.

Four days later, Barcelona lost their third consecutive League game in Pamplona against newly-promoted minnows Osasuna, and the club directors promptly called an emergency board meeting to discuss the crisis.

Poor Kubala found his head well and truly on the block after only seven matches — and Ipswich boss Bobby Robson must be glad he turned down the Spanish club's offer last season and decided to stay in Suffolk.



JOSE MARIA Maguregui, manager of Spanish club Espanol, has been wearing the same shirt for two years. Fortunately it's dark brown and doesn't show too much dirt, but Maguregui wears it before every home game. In its two years of use, his teams (Almeria and Espanol) haven't suffered a single reverse at home.

THE most comprehensive and interesting history of the European Cup I've ever read has just been published by the BBC's John Motson and John Rowlinson (Queen Anne Press, £10.95). It traces the story of Europe's premier Cup from its inception through to Forest's 1980 triumph.

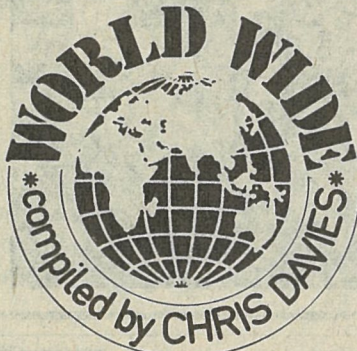
It isn't just a collection of facts and figures, although every statistic you could wish for is there. Motson and Rowlinson have spoken to the people who made the news and have highlighted the dramas and controversies of the Cup.

The authors have found BBC film of incidents that had fans talking. Unlike footballers' life stories, this is the sort of book you can read over and over again, looking through the records and reliving the great games.

German record

VfB STUTTGART created a new Bundesliga record for their sell-out crowd at home to leaders Bayern Munich. The takings were more than £250,000, of which VfB retained £162,000 after paying state taxes and giving the Stuttgart Corporation who own the Neckar Stadium their percentage.

Twenty-year-old left wing star Ilyas Tuefekci (born in Turkey) made his debut for VfB in the U.E.F.A. Cup and scored twice in their 4-1 win in Cyprus. He cannot play in the Bundesliga because VfB already have two foreigners firmly established: Dragan Holcer (Yugoslavia) and Roland Hattenberger (Austria).



ARGENTINE international striker Santiago Santamaria has been suspended by his club Newell's Old Boys for refusing to do 20 press-ups at the end of a training session.

CONTROVERSIAL incident during the recent French League match between title-chasing Bordeaux and Bastia.

Visiting defender Orlanducci and Bordeaux midfielder Fernandez started a vicious punch-up which soon deteriorated into a nasty boots-in-the-face affair.

Bastia's Cazes weighed in with a few punches, while Bordeaux's Lacombe was doing his best to separate the fighters.

Referee Monsieur Lambert was late on the scene, and after consulting his linesman sent-off Orlanducci and . . . Lacombe! The match ended in a 0-0 draw.

News flashes

● In Peru, Sporting Cristal finally lost their unbeaten record when they were defeated by Sports Boys. Cristal had gone 20 games without a reverse.

● Members of the Uruguayan national team have been promised a bonus of £4,200 a man if they win the Copa de Oro this winter. And £2,550 a head if they qualify for the 1982 World Cup Finals.

● The Algerians have decided to offer an incentive to their clubs to be more positive in their tactics which they hope lead to more attacking football. In League games clubs will get three points for a win and two for a draw, while beaten teams get one point. Seems no different, as winners still get two more points than the losers.

● The Moroccan League got off to an uncharacteristic start with no fewer than 33 goals scored in ten matches! But in the second game, everything returned to normal. Twelve sides failed to score! The emphasis is so heavily on defence that at the moment two sides have yet to concede a goal.

● French club Nantes, sponsored by the Europe 1 radio station, recently had an unexpected gift from their advertising patrons — each player received a video camera and cassette.

● Barcelona officials are already having second thoughts about having offered their ex-manager Helenio Herrera the job of looking for likely talent in foreign countries. Herrera's first outing to South America cost the Spanish club £5,000 in air fares alone.

● The river Plate doctor was concerned when

midfielder 'Mostaza' Merlo hit the deck and clutched his right foot in agony near the end of an Argentine National Championship match. In the dressing-room Merlo managed to explain that the referee had stamped on his big toe.

● Chile's most popular side Colo Colo recently got into trouble with their sponsors for not wearing their 'advertising shirts' during a League match. Colo Colo advertise Condor beer on their shirts — which presumably makes them look barrel-chested.

● A medical team recently spent some time in the Peruvian national stadium in Lima disinfecting a sector of the ground. Doctors have been puzzled by an outbreak of hepatitis among players, and finally located a virus-infected area.

MARADONA'S OFFER TO HOUSEMAN



help that Houseman needs.

Diego was still in bed recovering from his recent illness when the Houseman story broke, but he sent his friend and manager Jorge Cyterszpiller to see René and offer anything he needed.

Houseman promptly visited the Maradona household to thank Diego for the offer, and they began to talk seriously of getting René to join Argentinos Juniors and make a fresh start.

"But let's get one thing clear," warned Maradona (who's grown a beard since his illness). "You've got to change your ways. Early to bed every night. Training every morning. And a run with me every afternoon."

"You'd have to come and live here with me, and there's no way you'll get to night clubs — even if we have to knock you out before you reach the door!"

Despite the attempt to unite Argentina's two most skilful players in the same team, the main problem is that Houseman's club, Huracán, still value him at £400,000 — and Argentinos can't raise that sort of cash.

FIFA have refused an objection lodged by Haiti regarding a World Cup qualifier against Trinidad, which the Haitians lost 1-0.

They protested that the pitch was poor; the field not clearly marked; their opponents had not submitted their list of players by the required date; and the Trinidad authorities requested their players to be vaccinated the day before the match.

ENGLAND'S World Cup rivals Hungary received a slating from the Press after being held to a 2-2 draw in Budapest by Spain.

Manager Maszoly remarked after the game: "I sat down with my players and gave them the Spanish team as an example of the sort of side I want."

"I told them that if we go on playing at walking pace we'll get nowhere. Spain were faster and more positive than us, and I believe that if they can keep more or less the same side together for the next two years they'll have a big say in the World Cup Finals."

"On the other hand, if my team can't change its mentality we're in trouble."

THE AUTHORITIES in Venezuela are seriously considering declaring the current League campaign null and void!

The problem is that Venezuelan clubs have been recruiting foreign players and fielding them in League matches without waiting for their international clearance from FIFA.

In some cases this clearance hasn't been forthcoming, and many clubs have therefore fielded unregistered players in many important matches.

PROBLEM after problem for Chile's defending Champions Colo Colo. The club has had all its property impounded by the authorities because a £200,000 debt still hasn't been settled.

Meanwhile two of the club's star players, Caszely and Veliz, have also hit rock bottom at the restaurant they opened at the beginning of the year.

They closed after piling up debts of £12,000 in the first ten months.

Now for Forest

SOUTH American Champions Nacional of Montevideo have finally clinched the Uruguayan League Championship.

Nacional had led the Uruguayan League, but they suddenly went to pieces when they needed only one more point to clinch the title.

Now at last they can breathe easy — and now Nacional are keen to beat Forest next Spring for the Intercontinental Cup.

I REPORTED a few weeks ago how Argentina's fallen idol René Houseman (above) had been charged with attacking a girl in a night club. Now comes news that the winger's World Cup squad-mate Diego Maradona has offered any legal or other

LINE-UPS... RESULTS... SCORERS...

Wednesday, October 1

Cup-Winners' Cup

(Continued)

WEST HAM (3) 5 (Pike, Cross 3, Goddard)
CASTILLA (0) 1 (Bernal) Ground closed
West Ham: Parkes, Stewart, Lampard, Bonds, Martin, Devonshire, Holland (Brush), Goddard (Morgan), Cross, Brookings, Pike.
Castilla: Miguel, Chendo, Casimiro, Salguero, Espinosa, Sanchez, Lorenzo, Balin, Alvarez, Paco (Ramirez), Bernal, Cidon (Blanco).
 (AET. West Ham win 6-4 on agg.)

U.E.F.A. CUP

(First Round, second-leg)

ARIS SALONIKA (2) 3 (Tsimimokos, Drambis, Zeleediz)
IPSWICH (0) 1 (Gates) 25,000
Aris: Pantziaras, Mokalis, Chatziantonios, Michalis, Venos, Kouis, Zeleediz, Balis, Tsimimokos, Drambis, Semertzidis.
Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, Mills, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren (Beattie), Mariner, Brazil (McCall), Gates.
 (Ipswich win 6-4 on agg.)

DUNDEE UNITED (2) 7 (Dodds 2, Pettigrew 2, Stark, Hegarty, Payne (pen))
SLASK WROCLAW (1) 2 (Pawlowski 2) 8,000
Dundee United: McAlpine, Stark, Kopel, Phillip, Hegarty, Narey, Pettigrew, Sturrock, Payne, Holt, Dodd.
Wroclaw: Kostzawa, Sobjesiak, Kowalczyk, Kopyski, Garlowski, Wojaski, Pawlowski, Szarak, Bekala, Nocko, Sybis.
 (Dundee United win 7-2 on agg.)

ST. MIRREN 0
ELFSBORG 0 8,000
St. Mirren: Thomson, Young, Beckett, Richardson (Logan), MacCormack, Copland, McDougall, Stark, Somner, Weir, Abercromby.
Elfsborg: Svensson (R), Gustavsson, Johansson (L), Ahlstrom, Svensson (T), Malberg, Qvist, Nilsson, Larsson, Hansson (Klarstrom), Johansson (T), Anderson.
 (St. Mirren win 2-1 on agg.)

WIDZEW LODZ 0
MANCHESTER UNITED 0 40,000

Paul Goddard scores for West Ham against Castilla.



Widzew Lodz: Mlynarczyk, Pilch, Grebosz, Mozejko, Zmuda, Tlokinski, Pieta, Surlit, Boniek, Rozborski, Smolarek.
Man. Utd.: Bailey, Nicholl, Albiston, McIlroy, Jovanovic, Buchan (Moran), Grimes, Coppell, Jordan, Duxbury, Thomas.
 (Widzew Lodz win on away goals.)

WOLVES (0) 1 (Eves)
PSV EINDHOVEN (0) 0 20,000
Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Hughes, Villasanz, Hibbitt, Carr, Gray, Richards, Eves.
PSV: Doesburg, Wildschut, Brandts, Stevens, Van der Kerkhof (R), Van Kraay, Valke, Poortvliet, Van der Kuylen, Koster, Postuma.
 (PSV win 3-2 on agg.)

Third Division

BLACKPOOL (0) 2 (Thompson 2)
SHEFFIELD UTD. (0) 1 (Wiggin) 8,995

FULHAM (0) 0
EXETER (0) 1 (Rogers) 4,509

OXFORD 0
SWINDON 0 6,071

Fourth Division

CREWE (1) 2 (Coyne, Palios)
BURY (1) 2 (Prophett, Johnson) 3,436

PETERBOROUGH (1) 5 (Cooke 2, Otulakowski (og), Kellock, Quow)
SOUTHEND (1) 2 (Spence, Gray) 4,228

WIGAN (2) 4 (Quinn 2, Kettle, Urquhart)
HALIFAX (0) 1 (Firth) 4,247

Scottish First

AYR (0) 1 (Frye)
RAITH (0) 0 2,498

DUMBERTON (0) 2 (Gallagher, Rankin)
HIBERNIAN (0) 0 1,000

MOTHERWELL (2) 2 (McLaughlin, McKeever)
DUMFERMLINE (0) 0 1,848

STIRLING 0
CLYDEBANK 0 500

Scottish Second

CLYDE (1) 1 (Edgar)
ALBION (0) 1 (Brogan (og)) 650

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LINE-UPS... RESULTS... SCORERS...

Friday, October 3

Fourth Division

NORTHAMPTON (0) 0	
STOCKPORT (1) 1 (Williams)	1,092
SOUTHEND (1) 2 (Mercer 2)	
MANSFIELD (0) 0	4,443
TRANMERE (2) 3 (Evans, Lumby, Beamish)	
WIMBLEDON (0) 0	2,507

Saturday, October 4

First Division

ARSENAL (1) 1 (Stapleton)	
LEICESTER (0) 0	28,490
Arsenal: Wood; Devine, Sansom, Talbot, Walford, Young, Hollins, Sunderland, Stapleton, Gattling, Rix.	
Leicester: Wallington; Welsh, Gibson, Williams, May, Scott, Goodwin, Henderson, Young, Smith, Buchanan.	

ASTON VILLA (1) 4 (Evans 2, Morley, Shaw)	
SUNDERLAND (0) 0	26,914
Aston Villa: Rimmer; Swain, Evans, McNaught, Gibson (Deacy), Mortimer, Bremner, Cowans, Shaw, Withe, Morley.	
Sunderland: Turner; Whitworth, Allardice, Elliott, Bolton, Chisholm (Dunn), Arnott, Rowell, Cummins, Robson, Brown.	

COVENTRY (2) 3 (Dyson, Thompson, Hutchison)	
BRIGHTON (0) 3 (Smith 3)	11,462
Coventry: Sealey; Coop, Roberts, Blair, Dyson, Jacobs, Hutchison, Daly, Thompson, Hateley, Hunt.	
Brighton: Moseley; Gregory, Williams, Horton, Foster, Lawrenson, Stevens (McHale), Ward, Robinson, Smith, McNab.	

CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0	
WBA (0) 1 (Regis)	16,081
C. Palace: Barron; Hinchelwood, Fenwick, Nicholas, Cannon, Gilbert, Smillie (Walsh), Francis, Allen, Flanagan, Hilaire.	
WBA: Godden, Batson, Statham, Moses, Wile, Robertson, Treweek, Brown, Regis, Owen, Barnes.	

EVERTON (1) 2 (McBride 2 (2 pens))	
SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Channon)	36,544
Everton: McDonagh; Gidman, Bailey, Stanley, Wright, Lyons, McMahon, Eastoe, Latchford, Megson, McBride.	
Southampton: Katalinic; Golac, McCartney, Williams, Watson, Nicholl, Keegan (Hebberd), Channon, George, Holmes, Baker.	

IPSWICH (0) 1 (Wark)	
LEEDS (0) 1 (Sabella)	24,087
Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren (O'Callaghan), Mariner, Brazil, Gates.	
Leeds: Lukic; Greenhoff, Gray, Flynn, Cherry, Hart, Harris, Parlane, Curtis, Sabella, Graham.	

MANCHESTER CITY (0) 0	
LIVERPOOL (1) 3 (Dalglish, Souness, Lee)	41,022
Man. City: Corrigan; Ranson, Reid, Booth, Caton, Henry, Power, Daley, Mackenzie, Palmer, Reeves.	
Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Cohen, Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Lee, Fairclough (Gayle), McDermott, Souness.	

MIDDLESBROUGH (2) 6 (McAndrew 2, Jan-kovic 2, Woods (og), Johnston)	
NORWICH (0) 1 (Fashanu)	12,837
Middlesbrough: Platt; Craggs, Bailey, Johnston, Angus, McAndrew, Proctor, Shearer, Hodgson, Jan-kovic, Armstrong.	
Norwich: Hansbury; Symonds, Muzinic, Barham, Bond, Powell, Woods, Fashanu, Jack (Royle), Paddon, Goble.	

NOTTM. FOREST (1) 1 (Wallace)	
MAN. UTD (1) 2 (Macari, Coppell)	29,081
Nottm. Forest: Shilton; Anderson (Mills), Gray, McGovern, Lloyd, Needham, O'Neill, Bowyer, Birtles, Wallace, Robertson.	
Man. Utd: Bailey; Nicholl, Albiston, McIlroy, Jovanovic, Moran, Duxbury, Coppell, Jordan, Macari, Thomas.	

STOKE (0) 2 (Hampton, O'Callaghan)	
TOTTENHAM (2) 3 (Taylor (pen), Archibald, Hughton)	18,511
Stoke: Fox; Evans, Hampton, Dodd, O'Callaghan, Doyle, Heath, Ursem, Chapman, Richardson (Randall), Bracewell.	
Tottenham: Daines; Smith, Hughton, Yorath, Lacy, Perryman, Ardiles, Archibald, Villa, Taylor, Crooks (Roberts).	

WOLVES (1) 1 (Richards)	
BIRMINGHAM (0) 0	22,777
Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Hughes, Villasanz, Hibbitt, Carr, Gray, Richards, Eves.	
Birmingham: Wealds; Langan, Dennis, Curbishley, Gallagher, Todd, Ainscow, Givens, Worthington, Gemmill, Dillon.	

Second Division

BLACKBURN (0) 2 (Stonehouse 2 (1 pen))	
QPR (0) 1 (Neal)	12,290
Blackburn: Butcher; Branagan, DeVries, Kendall (Parkes), Keeley, Fazakerley, Brotherton, Stonehouse, Garner, McKenzie, Speight.	
QPR: Woods; McCreery, Gillard, Waddock, Wicks, Roeder, King, Shanks, Langley (Stewart), Currie, Neal.	

BOLTON (0) 2 (Thompson, Gowling)	
CHELSEA (1) 3 (Lee 2, Fillery (pen))	11,888
Bolton: Poole; Graham, Burke, Cantello (Hoggan), Jones, Walsh, Thompson, Whatmore, Gowling, Kidd, Nikolic.	
Chelsea: Borota; Wilkins, Rofe, Bumstead, Pates, Chivers, Britton, Fillery, Lee, Walker, Rhoades-Brown.	

BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 0	
CAMBRIDGE (0) 1 (Fallon)	5,231
Bristol Rovers: Thomas; Williams, McCaffery (Jones), Hughes, Baker, Griffiths, Barrowclough, Mabbutt, Penny, Lee, Barratt.	
Cambridge: Webster; Donaldson, Smith, Fallon, Stringer, Murray, Spriggs, Gibbins, Finney, Christie, Reilly.	

CARDIFF (1) 1 (Micallef)	
WATFORD (0) 0	6,407
Cardiff: Grotier; Grapes, Pontin, Dwyer, Lewis, Ronson, Buchanan, Maddy, Micallef, Stevens, Kitchen.	
Watford: Steele; Henderson, Sims, Jackett, Harrison, Blissell, Callaghan, Train, Poskett, Jenkins, Rostron (Pritchett).	

DERBY (2) 3 (Emson, Grant (o.g.), Biley)	
SHEFF WED (0) 1 (McCulloch)	18,554
Derby: Jones; Emery, Osgood, McFarland, Buckley, Clark, Powell (S), Powell (B), Swindlehurst, Biley, Emson.	
Sheff Wed: Cox; Blackhall, Pickering, Smith, Grant, Hornsby (Leman), King, Taylor, Curran, McCulloch.	

GRIMSBY (0) 1 (Drinkell)	
BRISTOL CITY (0) 0	8,781
Grimsby: Batch; Czuczman, Wigginton, Moore, Crosby, Ford, Waters, Mitchell, Cumming, Drinkell, Kilmore (Brolly).	
Bristol City: Cashley; Sweeney, Rodgers (Mann), Merrick, Hay, Gow, Tainton, Fitzpatrick, Whitehead, Ritchie, Mabbutt.	

LUTON (0) 0	
NOTTS CO (1) 1 (Hunt)	8,736
Luton: Findlay; Stephens, Donaghy, Grealish, Saxby, Price, Hill, Stein, Harrow, West (Antic), Moss.	
Notts Co: Avramovic; Benjamin, O'Brien, Kelly Kilcline, Richards, McCulloch, Masson, Christie, Hunt, Hooks.	

NEWCASTLE 0	
WEST HAM 0	24,848
Newcastle: Carr; Kelly, Davies, Walker, Boam, Mitchell, Shoulder, Rafferty, Shinton, Hibbitt, Koan.	
West Ham: Parkes; Stewart, Lampard, Bonds, Martin, Devonshire, Holland, Goddard (Brush), Cross, Neighbour, Pike.	

OLDHAM 0	
SHREWSBURY 0	6,093
Oldham: McDonnell; Sinclair, Clements, Hurst, Blair, Kowenicki, Fletcher, Keegan, Atkinson, Stainrod (Steele), Wyde.	
Shrewsbury: Wardle; King, Keay, Griffin, Larkin, Tong, Atkins, Turner, Cross, Dungworth, Edwards.	

ORIENT (2) 4 (Moore, Parsons, Chiedozie, Bowles)	
PRESTON (0) 0	4,295
Orient: Day; Fisher, Roffey, Taylor, Gray, Parsons, Chiedozie, Moore, Mayo, Bowles, Margerrison.	
Preston: Tunks; Taylor, McAteer, Doyle, Baxter, O'Riordan, Sayer, Coleman, McGee, Elliott, Houston (Blackley).	

WREXHAM (1) 1 (Edwards)	
SWANSEA (1) 1 (Giles)	8,544
Wrexham: Davies, Sutton, Davis, Cegielski, Jones, Carrodus, Cartwright, McNeil, Fox, Vinter (Hill), Edwards.	
Swansea: Stewart, Attley, Charles, Phillips, Stevenson, Hadziabdic, Robinson, Mahoney, James (L), Waddle (James (R)), Giles.	

Third Division

BARNLEY 0	
CHARLTON 0	9,305
BLACKPOOL (1) 4 (Thompson (M), Morris 2, Hockaday)	
GILLINGHAM (0) 0	6,588

BRENTFORD (0) 0	
NEWPORT (1) 1 (Lowndes)	7,309

FULHAM (0) 0	
BURNLEY (1) 2 (Laws, Potts)	4,683

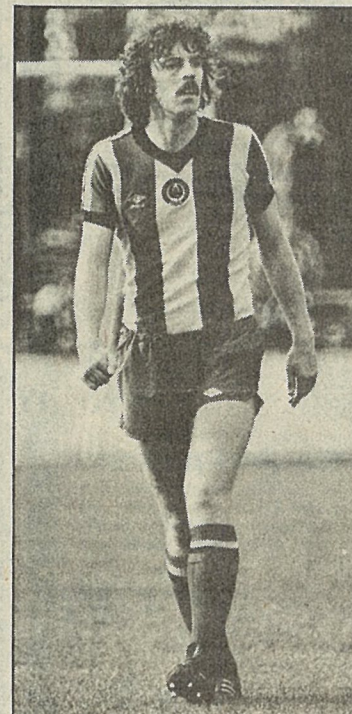
HUDDERSFIELD (0) 2 (Kindon pen, Brown)	
COLCHESTER (0) 0	8,400

HULL (0) 0	
OXFORD (0) 1 (Brock)	4,211

PORTSMOUTH (1) 1 (Rogers)	
CHESTERFIELD (0) 0	14,953

READING (3) 4 (Bowman, Hicks, Webb, Dibble (o.g.))	
MILLWALL (0) 1 (Dibble)	5,690

ROTHERHAM (1) 3 (Henson, Seasman, Moore)	
EXETER (1) 1 (Giles)	6,889



Tony Higgins of Partick Thistle.

SHEFF UTD 0	
PLYMOUTH 0	12,401

SWINDON (0) 1 (Mayes)	
CHESTER (0) 2 (Howat, Ludlam)	5,577

WALSALL (2) 4 (Penn 2, McVitie (o.g.), Baines)	
CARLISLE (1) 3 (Hamilton, Staniforth, MacDonald)	3,185

Fourth Division

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 2 (Massey, Heffernan)	
SCUNTHORPE (1) 2 (Lambert, O'Berg)	3,079

BRADFORD C (2) 2 (Staniforth 2)	
CREWE (0) 2 (Coyne, Scott)	3,111

CONCASTER (0) 0	
LINCOLN (0) 1 (Hobson)	9,693

HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 (Linacre)	
ALDRSHOT (0) 0	2,844

HEREFORD (0) 0	
DARLINGTON (1) 1 (Walsh)	2,934

PETERBOROUGH (1) 2 (Syrett 2)	
BURY (0) 0	4,080

ROCHDALE (1) 3 (Wann 2, Hilditch)	
WIGAN (0) 0	3,479

TORQUAY (0) 1 (Wilson)	
HALIFAX (0) 0	1,849

YORK (3) 4 (McDonald 2, Byrne, Eccles)	
PORT VALE (0) 1 (Griffiths)	2,025

Scottish Premier

CELTIC (1) 2 (McGarvey, Nicholas)	
DUNDEE UTD (0) 0	21,000
Celtic: Bonnar; Sneddon, MacDonald, McAdam, McGrain, Sullivan, McGarvey, MacLeod, Conroy, McCluskey, Nicholas.	
Dundee Utd: McAlpine; Stark, Phillip, (Kirkwood), Hegarty, Kopel, Sturrock, Payne, Narey, Holt, Pettigrew, Dodds (Campbell).	

HEARTS (0) 0	
ABERDEEN (0) 1 (Rougvie)	10,873
Hearts: Brough; Jeffries, McVie, Benny (Robinson), Shields, Bowman, MacDonald, Kidd, Robertson, Gibson, O'Connor.	
Aberdeen: Leighton, Kennedy, Garner (Watson), Miller, Rougvie, Strachan, Bell, McMaster, McGhee, Jarvie, McCall (Scanlon).	

KILMARNOCK (0) 1 (Cramond)	
ST MIRREN (4) 6 (Somner 3 (1 pen), Aber-cromby, Stark, McDougall)	4,000
Kilmarnock: Brown; McLean, Robertson, Mauchlen (Clark), Clarke, McDicken, Houston, Maxwell, Bourke, Cramond, Street (Gibson).	
St Mirren: Thomson; Young, Monroe, Abercromby, McCormack, Copland, McDougall (Curran), Stark, Somner, Weir, Bone.	

MORTON (2) 2 (Busby, Ritchie pen)	
RANGERS (1) 2 (Miller pen, McAdam)	15,000
Morton: Baines; Hayes, McLaughlin, Orr, Holmes, Rooney, Busby, Thomson, McNeil, Cochrane, Ritchie (Tolmie).	
Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Johnstone, Jackson, Miller, McLean, Bett, Redford, Cooper (Stevens), McAdam, MacDonald (Johnston).	

PARTICK (0) 2 (Higgins 2)	
AIRDRIE (1) 1 (Erwin)	5,000
Partick: Rough; Doyle, Whittaker, Gibson, Campbell, Welsh, Park, O'Hara, Higgins, Watson, Jardine.	
Airdrie: Martin; Erwin, Rodger, Walker, March, Anderson, McGuire, (Thompson), Clark, Russell, Gordon, McCulloch.	

Scottish First

BERWICK (1) 1 (Tait)	
STIRLING (0) 0	640

CLYDEBANK (1) 3 (Given, McGorm, Miller)	
HAMILTON (0) 1 (Alexander)	1,000

DUNDEE (2) 3 (Fleming, Shirra, Sinclair)	
DUMBARTON (0) 1 (Schaefer (o.g.))	3,553

DUNFERMLINE (0) 0	
HIBERNIAN (0) 2 (McLeod 2)	5,650

FALKIRK (1) 3 (McAllister (o.g.), Herd, Thompson)	
AYR (0) 1 (Love)	2,000

MOTHERWELL (2) 2 (Kidd, Caldwell (o.g.))	
ST JOHNSTONE (2) 2 (McCoist, Doherty)	2,470

RAITH (0) 2 (Harris 2)	
EAST STIRLING (0) 1 (Blair)	1,500

Scottish Second

ALBION (0) 1 (Mulveny)	
ARBROATH (3) 6 (Dougherty, Young, Gillespie, Mylles (S), Mylles (T) pen, Shaw)	360

BRECHIN (0) 0	
EAST FIFE (0) 1 (Mack)	400

FORFAR (0) 1 (Clark)	
COWDENBEATH (1) 2 (Forrest 2)	950

MEADOWBANK (0) 0	
MONTROSE (1) 2 (Bain, Beedie)	150

QoS (1) 1 (Robertson)	
CLYDE (1) 3 (Ahearn, Bolan, Brogan)	1,500

QUEEN'S PARK (1) 1 (Irvine)	
ALLOA (0) 1 (Holt pen)	700

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 1 (Kirkland)	
STRANRAER (1) 2 (Gibb, Frickleton (o.g.))	300



YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

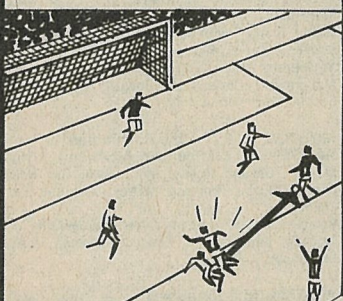
1

Two defenders collide and fall injured. The ball runs to an opponent who scores. Should you (a) allow the goal, or (b) disallow it and restart by dropping the ball?



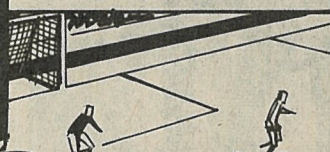
2

An attacker is tripped just outside the penalty-area after passing to a team-mate in a scoring position. Should you stop play?



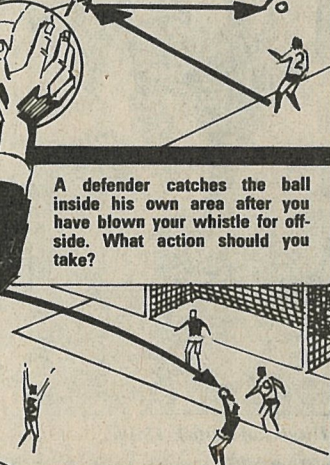
3

A goalkeeper receives a free-kick, then throws it to a team-mate inside the penalty-area. Should you (a) take no action, (b) have the kick re-taken, or (c) award a free-kick to the opposition?



4

A defender catches the ball inside his own area after you have blown your whistle for off-side. What action should you take?



5

A team is reduced to just seven players. Should you abandon the match?



ANSWERS

1. Allow the goal (a). 2. No. 3. Take no action (a). 4. A defender catches the ball inside his own area after you have blown your whistle for off-side. What action should you take? 5. No. I recently awarded an indirect free-kick for off-side. Unfortunately the game and Sarajevo (Yugoslavia). Unfortunately the game was not one you would like young people to watch. I cautioned three players from Hamburg, six players from Sarajevo and also sent off three of their players. The last player I sent off was four minutes from the end and as things were going it would not have surprised me if more had gone.

Ray Wilkins
WRITES
FOR YOU



EVEN though England suffered two bad results in Rumania last month, I still believe we have the best crop of young stars coming through for years.

The defeat by the Under-21's was only the team's fourth loss, while the experience of simply playing in Bucharest in a World Cup tie will have benefited the likes of Bryan Robson, Graham Rix and Eric Gates.

In the old days, we used to have a Youth team and the Under-23's. The gap was far too big, because youngsters were often going two or three years without international football.

Ron Greenwood re-introduced the 'B' team, so there is now continuity from Youth to Under-21 to 'B' to the full side.

A young star can be brought on slowly but surely at international level, rather than be plunged in at the deep end.

The two latest players brought into the full squad are Gordon Cowans and Justin Fashanu, and I remember they both played exceptionally well against United last season.

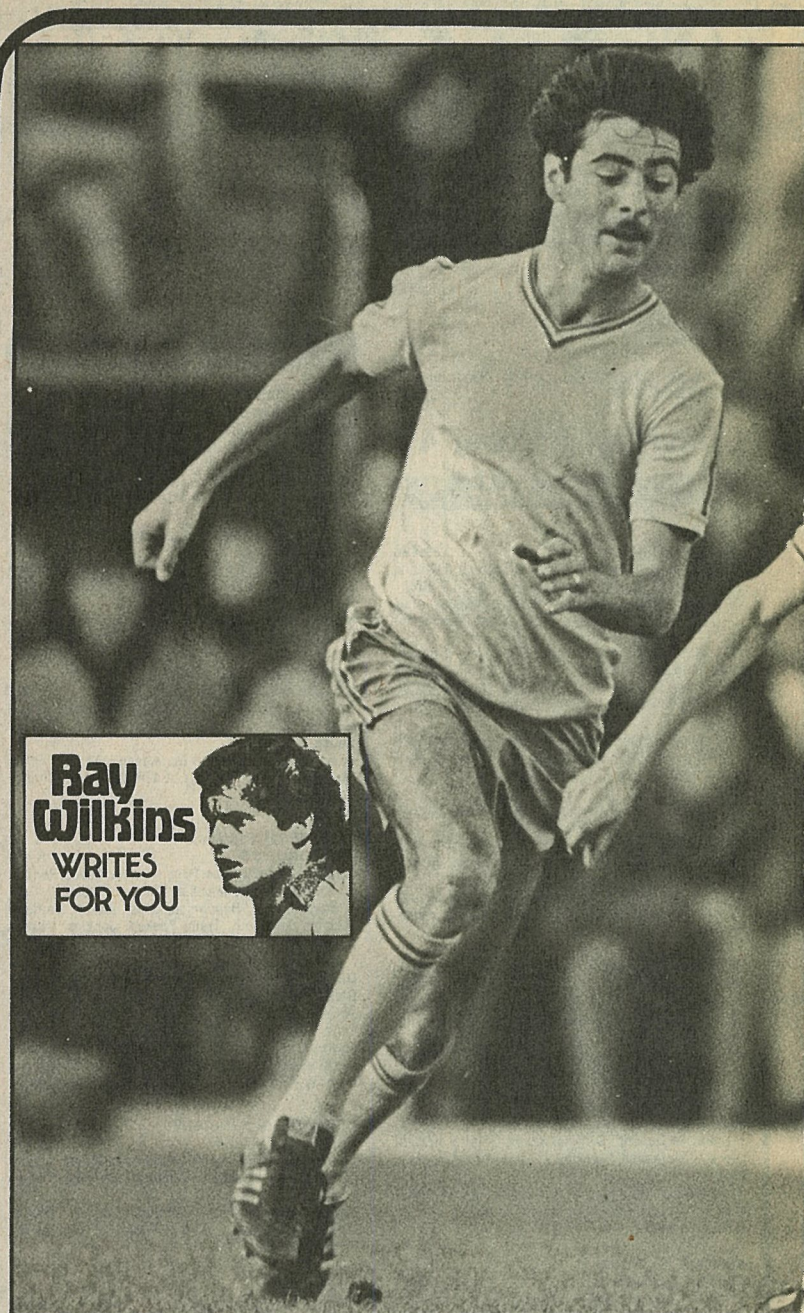
Norwich destroyed us in the

League Cup at Carrow Road, beating us 4-1, with Justin scoring once. There was something wrong with the floodlights that night and we had trouble picking him up!

An ex-boxer, Justin has been criticised for being over-physical, but he now seems to use his attributes to the best effect. He really is a powerful striker and considering Norwich have been inconsistent this season, Justin has done exceptionally well to head the goal-chart.

Even now, I'd rate Gordon Cowans as one of the best midfielders around, and in a couple of years he could be exceptional. I particularly like the way he is constantly involved in a game, in defence and attack. He is equally good with either foot, with vision beyond his years. Off the park he's a smashing fellow, too.

I recall seeing Russell Osman and Terry Butcher playing together for the Under-21's at Watford last season and at the time I thought how beneficial it would be for England if they could keep progressing. They have, of course, and the Ipswich pair are the best young central defenders in the League.





ABOVE: "I rate Gordon Cowans as one of the best midfield players in the country."

RIGHT: "Bryan Robson would prefer to play a more defensive role."

have done well in their two internationals this season. Again, Ron benefits from the Arsenal combination of Kenny Sansom and Graham down the left; the two have quickly built up a good understanding.

Graham has said he prefers to play in the middle of the midfield rather than wide on the left. The problem there is that the central man tends to hang back to 'hold' the midfield. Personally, I think Graham's pace and goalscoring ability means he's more use to the team in an out-and-out attacking role.

I played alongside Bryan in the Youth team, where he was sweeper. I've heard the West Brom star mention how much he likes playing at the back.

Like Graham, though, Bryan is a good player going forward. He beats opponents easily and knocks

in a few goals. His passing is also outstanding, which makes him an ideal midfielder.

Another young player I greatly admire is Glenn Hoddle, and I can't understand some of the criticisms levelled at him. The Spurs schemer scored 22 goals from midfield last season and has about half a dozen this time round.

It's said he isn't consistent: well, if scoring 22 goals isn't consistency, what is? Glenn would be quite right if he asked: "What more could I have done?"

Now, with Garth Crooks and Steve Archibald providing more goal-power, the onus isn't on Glenn so much. Glenn may have his critics, but I'm not one of them.

Aston Villa striker Gary Shaw has also taken my eye. When he played against us a year ago he was new to the first team, but showed good control and posed us a few problems with one-two's.

It's unlikely that either Peter Shilton or Ray Clemence will be seri-

ously challenged before 1981. The two leading candidates are my United team-mate Gary Bailey and Leeds' John Lukic.

I always feel safe with Gary in goal. When he comes for a centre, I immediately start taking up an attacking position as he so rarely makes mistakes.

His attitude is ultra-professional; he's an intelligent lad who comes over well on T.V.; and with Harry Gregg coaching him he should continue to progress.

The Leeds' keeper is very similar. I feel a bit sorry for them as their immediate chances of playing in the full team are limited. However, goalkeepers traditionally reach their peak later than outfield players and I've no worries with this pair waiting in the shadows.

Middlesbrough have some promising youngsters, not least Craig Johnston and David Hodgson. Boro looks as if they could finish in the top ten, which would be some degree of success for them.

'ENGLAND'S FUTURE IN SAFE HANDS'

This Saturday (November 1st) United are at Crystal Palace, where we won 2-0 last season. I'm amazed to see Palace have been struggling this term as they have so many good players.

I thought Terry Venables might have stayed to see the job through, but no doubt he had his reasons for taking the Q.P.R. job.

Controversy

It's not been easy for SHOOT's latest columnist Clive Allen. After the Arsenal controversy, he's been playing in a side with its backs to the wall and now the man who signed him has left.

Just an update, on myself . . . the operation on my groin was a success. The tendon was severed three-quarters of the way through; this was repaired and the scar tissue removed.

It hasn't been as painful as it may sound. Round about now I hope to be getting clearance from the specialist to start light training. I haven't set myself any deadlines. I'm certainly not rushing — after so long, another week hardly makes any difference.

I'm looking for an early Christmas present some time next month. Join me again in a fortnight.

Ray Jones



It's a bonus for an international manager to have club players who play together available. Russell and Terry would, I'm sure, admit that playing in what is virtually an all-international club team has been a great help to them, especially Mick Mills. The pair complement each other and I hope they go from strength to strength.

Eric Gates isn't exactly a youngster, but he's new to the England set-up and a fine example of a player having to wait for the right breaks. He was on the verge of leaving Ipswich not too long ago; now he's battling for a Championship medal and a place in the World Cup Finals. The way Eric turns quickly in tight situations reminds me of Kenny Dalglish — I'm not surprised Aris Salonika conceded three penalties because of Eric's twisting and turning in the area.

Graham Rix and Bryan Robson

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

BOBBOY WATSON, who readily admits he would have gladly tackled King Kong while he was a footballer with Rangers and Motherwell, doesn't fit the popular image of a bible thumper.

Rugged Bobby was known more for his brawn than his brain in his playing days, but among his best friends he includes ministers and preachers. And he isn't slow to preach a sermon or two himself when the opportunity arises.

Clean-living Watson must be hoping that someone up there likes him, for his club Airdrie will certainly need a blessing or two if they are to survive in the Premier Division this season.

Their biggest task even before a ball was kicked this season was to try to convince their many critics that they were no joke and that they could hold their own among the big boys.

After 90 League minutes the part-time Broomfield men had made their point . . . literally! They

BY ALEX GORDON

drew 1-1 with Rangers, who had just beaten Arsenal and Spurs in pre-season games, and some onlookers confessed they thought Watson's warriors should have won.

"They played that game like a Cup-tie," says Ibrox manager John Greig. "Right from the kick-off they contested every ball and chased everything. We never got a chance to settle. They deserved that point."

Just to prove it was no flash in the pan, Airdrie also got a point from Celtic at Parkhead. In fact, they were leading until minutes from the end when the scoring sensation of the season so far, young Charlie Nicholas, stepped up to slot in a perfect penalty-kick.

Kilmarnock apply the pressure at Broomfield, but Airdrie 'keeper John Martin is equal to the occasion (right).



WATSON'S WARRIORS

"The boys played well against Rangers and Celtic, but I have stressed that they must play like that all the time," says Watson.

"It's no good playing pretty football against the bigger teams and dropping points to other sides. I've got my message across. The boys know what I'm looking for."

The persuasive powers of Watson have tempted the experienced double-act of Morton's George Anderson and Dumbarton's Pat McCluskey to join the club this season.

Bargain

Anderson is already looking to be a marvellous bargain at only £30,000, and ex-Celt McCluskey, another snip at £30,000, will be able to play in defence and attack.

"I wouldn't have come here if I didn't think this club has a future," says McCluskey. "I wanted to join a Premier Division outfit and Airdrie have given me this opportunity."

"People who are saying we will slide back into the First Division could be eating their words at the final whistle on this term. Certainly

there is no defeatist's talk at Broomfield.

"Relegation is a dirty word so far as myself, my colleagues and Mr Watson are concerned."

Watson is well aware that his club are not the greatest crowd-pullers in Scotland, and that they are somewhat short of trophy-winning tradition. But it is an image he is determined to change.

"Our greatest asset this season could be our ground," he explained. "The big teams come to Broomfield and find it difficult to settle down into their normal game. It is only a small place, and it seems to put them out of their stride."

Since Watson took over his home town club a couple of seasons ago he has gone about his task in a thoroughly professional manner with a refreshing honesty and relish. There is now no talk outside the club of Airdrie being the joke side of the Top Ten.

They have earned that respect.

Possibly someone up there does like Bobby Watson, after all.

● Colour team group on page 40.

CLUB RECORD

PAST HONOURS: Division One runners-up: Five times. Division Two Champions: 1902-03, 1954-55, 1973-74. Runners-up: Four times. Scottish Cup winners: 1924. Runners-up: 1975. Spring Cup winners: 1975-76. LAST SEASON'S RECORD: First Division: Second. Scottish Cup: Fourth Round. Scottish League Cup: Second Round.



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AIRDRIE

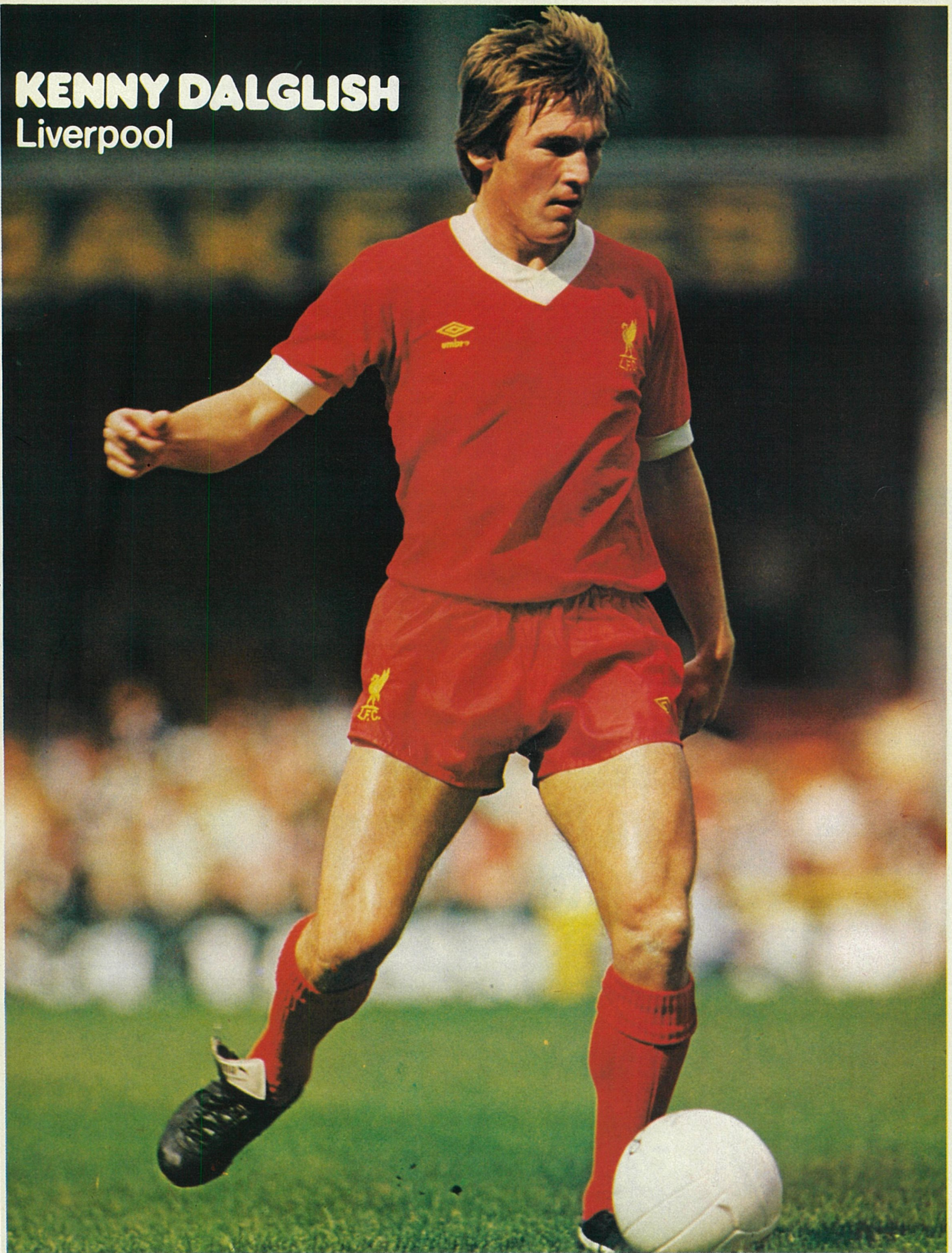


BACK ROW (left-to-right): Brian McKeown, Willie McCulloch, Frank Close, Ernie McGarr, Albert Burnett, Gordon Hamilton, Ian Gordon, Ernie McGarr (now Berwick).

MIDDLE ROW: Norrie Anderson, Stuart Buckle, Tommy Veitch, David Thompson, John Martin, Jim March, Jim Rodger, Harry Erwin, David Shanks, Bobby Morrison (assistant to manager).

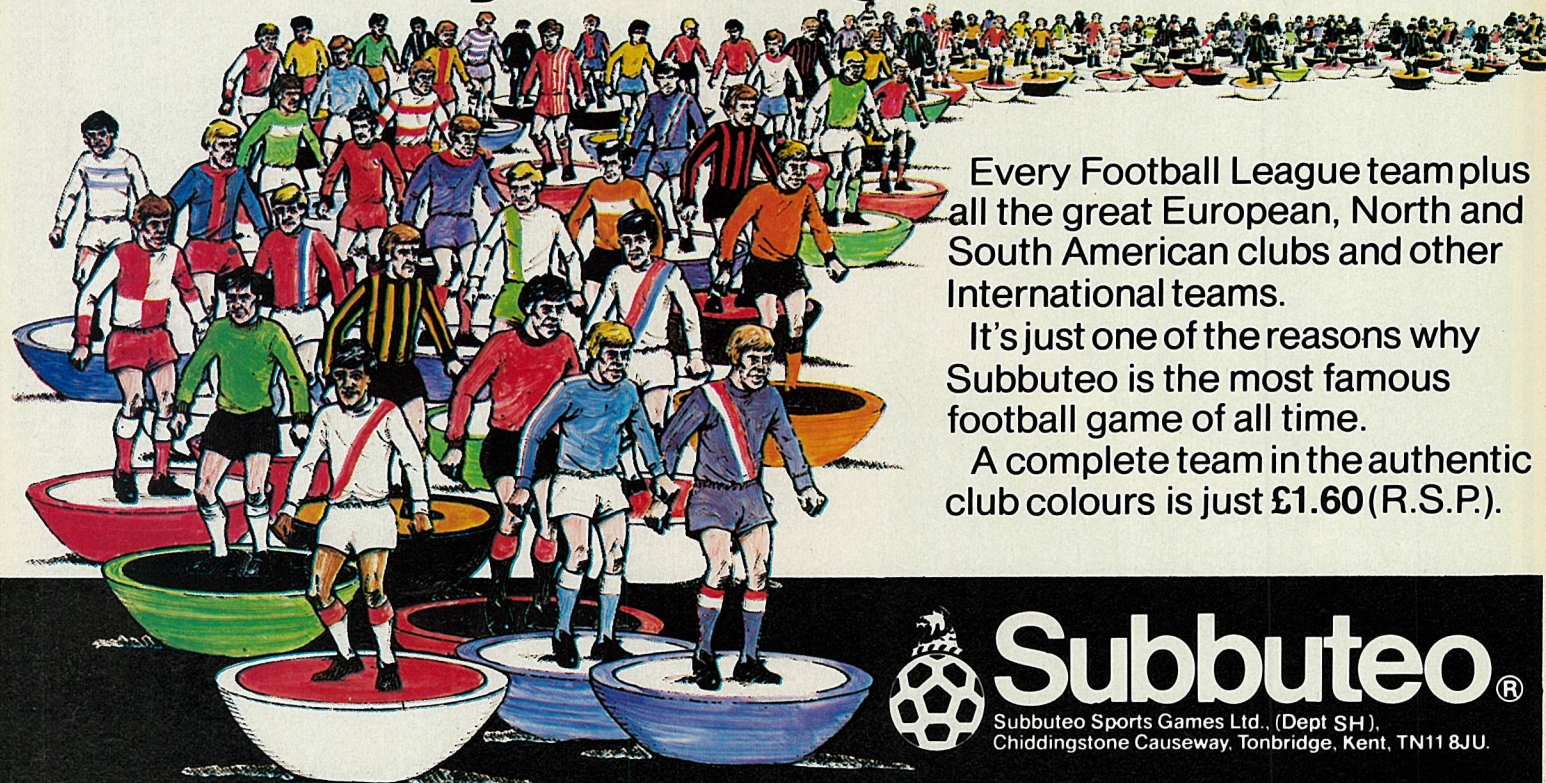
FRONT ROW: William McGuire, Bobby Watson (manager), John McCrymont, Tom Walker, Sandy Clark, John McVeigh, Bobby Russell, Wilson Humphries (assistant to manager), Gordon Morrison.

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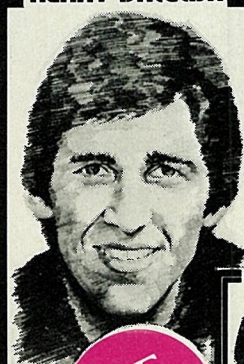
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NAME.....
ADDRESS.....

DEADLY DAVE

PLYMOUTH'S David Kemp hit the roof when he was reading the football transfer gossip column in a Sunday newspaper. "There they were reporting League managers looking at strikers in the Scottish Second Division or someone in a reserve team somewhere. What's the matter with me?"

Not, he adds hastily, that he wants a move from Home Park — "I'm very happy at a splendid club which is going to win promotion," — but he points out: "It is a matter of recognition. I wouldn't mind that a little, because I think my record is pretty good."

That is putting it very modestly indeed. "The lad is a phenomenal marksman," says Argyle manager Bobby Saxton, who paid a club record £90,000 to sign him from Carlisle.

"His whole life revolves around sticking the ball in the back of the net. He can do it with either foot and, even if he isn't a Paul Mariner in the air, he scores his share with headers. Like all the goalscorers who make the record books, such as Jimmy Greaves and Denis Law, he is a 'box' player."

"Tight marking and tough play in the 18-yard area does not worry him. The top men in his business will always hunt out the room — and he is one of the best. His finishing is lethal."

"Just to put the facts straight, there aren't any penalties in my record either," says the former Crystal Palace, Portsmouth and Carlisle sharpshooter. "A lot of the so-called strikers earn half their living from the penalty spot — but not me."

His record bears comparison with any front man in football: ten goals in 32 full League games for Palace, 30 in 63 games at Portsmouth, 22 in 60 at Carlisle and a starting figure this season of 15 in 27 games at Plymouth.

Injury

The Home Park statistic would have been even more impressive if David had not been out of the side for four months last season after a severe Achilles tendon injury. Now he is fit and even deadlier than ever.

"This Argyle side is a good one. Given the luck with injuries, we have the skill and the spirit to take us back into the Second Division."

As well as shrewdly signing Kemp, manager Saxton made a fine pre-season acquisition in Donal Murphy from Torquay. "We were friends long before we came together at Plymouth," says Kemp. "We met through a mutual acquaintance and had socialised a good deal together."

"That seemed to help when we came together in the Plymouth side this season. Donal's work on the left flank has given me, directly or indirectly, most of my goals this season. Our understanding worked from 'the off'."

"As well as Donal on the left, there is Brian Bason on the right and he creates openings as well. And not enough credit goes to the guy alongside me, John Sims, who puts in a terrific amount of work."

In SHOOT just before the start of the season, Bobby Saxton said that he was looking for "50 points-plus and promotion."

That confidence seemed right on target as his fast moving, attack-conscious side lost only two of their first 14 League games.

"Early to be excited? Perhaps so, but it's a nice position anyway," counters Saxton who has put a great deal of work in restoring the fortunes of Plymouth, who were relegated from the Second Division in 1977 and who struggled dangerously for many weeks last season.

"I think we'll prove that our flying start was no flash in the pan: it was just the sound foundation we were looking for. There is plenty of ability in this season's Argyle side and there is a genuine confidence within the club that we're going places."



'I'm really a softie' says NORMAN HUNTER

IT'S like hearing Tom Jones confess that he's a soprano when Norman Hunter suddenly confronts you with the comment that he's quite a softie.

Is this the same man who became known throughout the nation as "Bite yer legs Norman" thanks to the ferocity of his tackling in that none-too soft Leeds United side of the last decade? Is he soccer's Jekyll and Hyde?

"Yes, it's true I'm two different people," admits Norman. "On the pitch I have to win. I want the ball, and you have to be a strong man in this game to get it."

"But off it I'm nothing like the hard man that people imagine and that's something I have to sort out now that I've become manager of Barnsley."

That was typically brave and honest comment from Hunter, who has taken over at Oakwell from his old buddy Allan Clarke and admits that he finds the hardest part of the job is telling other people what to do.

"It is something I have to sort out in my own mind when to be tough and when not to be. It's rather foreign to my nature, and it's not something that comes easily, but I'm gradually coming to terms with the idea."

"Actually I'm enjoying the managerial side, although I still get more enjoyment out of playing and I hope to carry on for a while yet. You should have seen the goal I scored for the reserves when we beat Middlesbrough 10-2! That was something special and so long as I can do that you'll still see me on the field."

Hunter began his managerial career by selecting himself as substitute. "I think that's the best place for me, because if someone isn't pulling his weight I can go on."

Like Allan Clarke, the grateful Hunter is quick to point to Don Revie as the man who taught him everything he knows.

"I couldn't have had a better grounding or a better tutor, and I'm only sad Don hasn't really had the recognition he deserves in later years because of the England business."

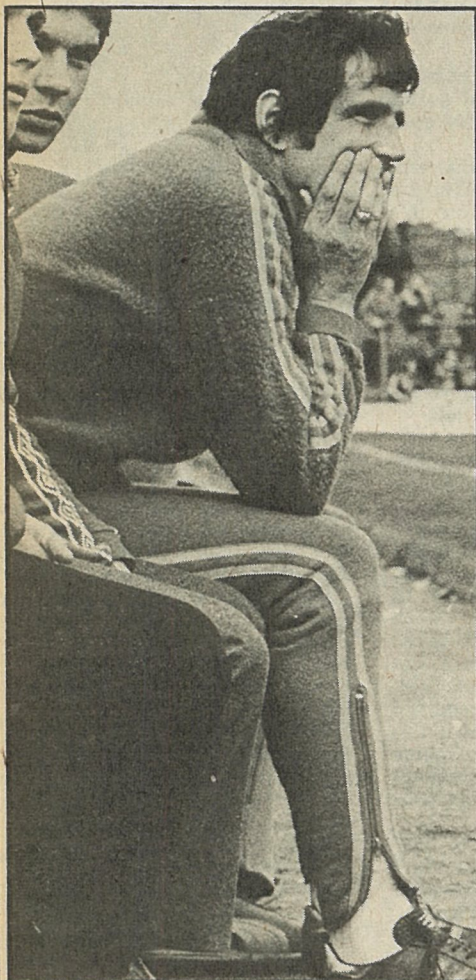
Hunter is also full of praise for the way Allan Clarke handled affairs at Barnsley.

'Characters'

"I believe a manager is judged by what he leaves on a football field, and Allan has left me with a very good squad of players, all good characters, and I firmly believe we have a chance of going up to the Second Division. That's obviously my first ambition, and then perhaps we can begin to think in terms of First Division football. Clubs like Ipswich, Coventry, Palace and Norwich have done it in recent years, so there's no reason why we shouldn't."

Hunter is glad he opted for Barnsley rather than Bristol City to start his life as a manager.

"It was purely circumstances that dictated the decision. Maybe a few months ago I would have chosen Bristol City, but as I've just moved house and the children have settled into a new school, it clearly suited me to stay in the North, and I'm happy that's what I've done."



FOOTBALL FUNNIES



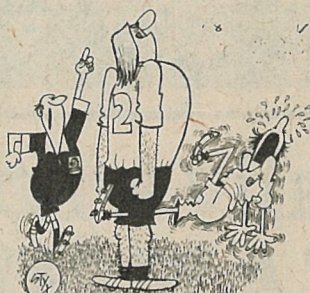
"To celebrate November 5th, the boss is going to give you a little present — a rocket!"



This week Manchester United's Jimmy Nicholl, who scored his first goal for Northern Ireland in their recent World Cup win against Sweden, selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"They're making a fortune with our fans, boss — modelled their guy on you."



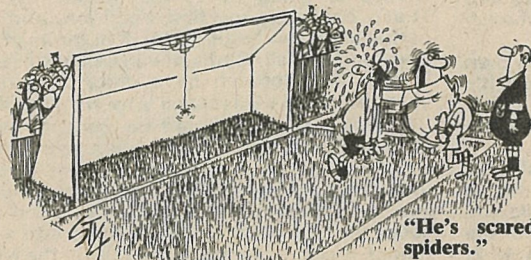
"O.K. You've made your point. It was a dangerous tackle, now let him go."



"They've got a nerve — especially after losing 8-0."



"This is what I call close marking, Bert."



"He's scared stiff of spiders."

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So much has happened to me these past few months I thought I'd become shock proof.

Then came the bombshell that shattered that elusion... a body blow I still haven't fully recovered from.

Yes, I'm talking about Terry Venables leaving Crystal Palace to replace Tommy Docherty as manager of my old club Queens Park Rangers.

Rumours were in the air when I left for Rumania with the England Under-21 party, but I didn't dream for a minute that Terry would actually leave Selhurst Park, especially with the club firmly anchored at the bottom of the First Division.

T.V. never gave me or, as far as I know, any of the other Palace lads the slightest hint that he was seri-

ously thinking of a change of club. Terry had been seen at Loftus Road on occasions, but we believed he was looking at players.

Obviously I don't know what happened behind the scenes, or all the reasons he left Palace, I can only surmise the set-up at Rangers appealed to him and that he felt a move might be best for Palace.

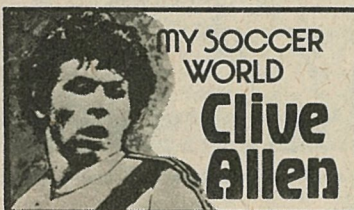
I put a great deal of faith in T.V. and he was the main reason I joined Palace from Arsenal at the beginning of the season, but his departure doesn't worry me or shake my belief in the future of the club.

Naturally I'll miss Terry. His tactical awareness and ability to motivate players makes him one of the finest managers in the country. A possible England boss of the future.

The Rangers players will respond to him. So much so it wouldn't surprise me if he takes them to promotion this season.

The team has changed a bit since I was at Loftus Road last season, but Tony Currie, Glenn Roeder, Ian Gillard, Chris Woods, Gordon Hill and Don Shanks are still around.

'Palace must without



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Before he was sacked, Tommy Docherty introduced a few youngsters, so T.V. has a good blend to work with.

If he achieves as much with Rangers as he did with Palace then chairman Jim Gregory will consider his capture an outstanding triumph.

Terry took Palace from the Third to the First Division and has left

behind a squad I'm convinced is good enough to take us away from the bottom of the table.

Now we've got to learn to live — and thrive — without T.V.

I was first told of Terry's departure while standing with Vince Hilaire and Terry Fenwick at Bucharest Airport waiting for our flight home after the Under-21 and senior internationals.

He wasn't assisting Dave Sexton on this trip. His wife's visit to the hospital and the pressures of the Palace/Rangers affair kept him at home.

The news of his departure hardly helped to soften the blow of two defeats.

As you know, the Under-21 side suffered a 4-0 set-back in our opening European Championship game

in Ploiesti, which is about 45 minutes drive from the capital.

It was England's heaviest defeat at this level, but nowhere as convincing as the scoreline suggests.

The first-half was quite a battle, with England coming out on top. Our 'keeper John Lukic didn't have a worthwhile shot to save.

We even went ahead, when Justin Fashanu scored with a header. Unfortunately the referee didn't agree and disallowed the goal, signalling that an England player had been standing offside.

At half-time Dave Sexton told us how pleased he was with our performance and the way the game was going. He was convinced England were heading for a good result.

Sadly we fell apart in the second-half, during which time the referee seemed to lose control. Some very bruising tackles and cynical Rumanian treatment went unpunished.

A defensive slip allowed Terhes

through for their first goal after 53 minutes.

The centre-forward was giving us a few problems with his runs and sharpness around the box, and it was his persistence that forced Coventry's Paul Dyson to put through his net for Rumania's second.

Then I hit a post. A goal then would have put England back in the game with a chance. But to prove how the luck was running for us, the ball ran loose from the rebound and the Rumanians broke away for Terhes to score a third and killer goal.

He reached his hat-trick a couple of minutes from time with a great half-volley from Klein's cross.

Dave Sexton was as disappointed as his players at the end and called a

mainly due to injuries and the fact he had been forced to field a makeshift side in Bucharest.

No team can afford to lose talent such as Kevin Keegan, Trevor Brooking, Ray Wilkins and Trevor Francis and expect to beat a side as uncompromising and under-rated as Rumania.

But Ron refused to use injuries as an excuse. "It's no use talking about players that weren't there," he told journalists on the packed Trident. "You have to make the best use of the squad available."

But it's not all gloom for me. This Saturday (November 1st) will be a milestone in my career. Palace are entertaining Manchester United at Selhurst Park.

I've never played against them before or been to Old Trafford, so

learn to live T.V.'

LEFT: Clive Allen in action for England Under 21's in Rumania during a 4-0 defeat.

RIGHT: Terry Venables, who has left Crystal Palace to become manager at Clive's former club Q.P.R.

meeting to discuss how we had let goals in. He said we must learn from those mistakes.

"You didn't deserve to lose 4-0," he said. "But you lost a lot of discipline when their first went in."

Dave was right, of course. We'll have to ensure we get it right for our next game.

The Under-21's stayed on to watch the seniors in action the following afternoon in Bucharest.

Confident

As you know, they lost 2-1 after doing ever so well in the first-half.

Even though Rumania went in at half-time a goal up, all the England lads felt confident of at least a draw, especially when Tony Woodcock equalised.

Their winner from the penalty-spot was a joke. There's no way Kenny Sansom pulled Crisan down in the box.

"You know when you've knocked them down and you know when they've dived," Kenny told me. "That bloke definitely took a dive."

Ron Greenwood spent the time on the way back talking to the players, telling them what he had expected of them and looking for reasons why they didn't perform as well for England as they have been doing for their clubs.

He said he thought the preparation this time hadn't been as good as it should have been. But that was

this is a dream come true for me.

Of all the present day United stars Lou Macari stands out most for me. His power up-front and in the air for one so small, positional sense and superb consistency over the years has established him as one of the all-time greats.

Even though their side could still be decimated by injuries, victory over United will send The Eagles' confidence soaring sky high.




TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time

STRIKERS

1. Did Manchester United's recent £1.4 million signing Garry Birtles begin his League career with Nottingham Forest, the club that sold him to Old Trafford?
2. Which one of these players — John Bumstead (Chelsea), Martin Robinson (Charlton Athletic) or Brian Stein (Luton Town) — is not a recognised striker?
3. Bob Lee has been playing for which Second Division club this season?
4. Ipswich Town knocked Norwich City out of the League Cup in a Third Round replay at Carrow Road. Did Paul Mariner (below) or Alan Brazil score two of their goals?



5. Peter, John or Alan Coyne scored four goals for Crewe in their 5-0 home win against Hereford United recently?

SAID IN SHOOT

The following quotes appeared in SHOOT, dated October 25th. Who said them?

1. "I had been with Morton since joining them as a schoolboy. I enjoyed my football there, but the time was right to move on, I suppose."
2. "I was the Third Division's first six-figure player but it didn't quite go to plan at Bloomfield Road."
3. "At international level, too, the same applies. I was fortunate to go into a side where everyone was prepared to help me."
4. "I made mistakes at United but I was keen, full of confidence. With the benefit of hindsight, perhaps a bit more guile would have helped me."
5. "I must admit I've been frustrated in the past by players who wouldn't do their fair share of work, but with our present squad I'm confident we'll all pull our weight."

JUMBLED MANAGERS

Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the names and their clubs of some of Britain's top managers.

1. BBYOBSBRNOO (WHISPCI)
2. HJNOGGIRE (GRNSEA)
3. RNBAIGCHUOL (TTHONMGIARTSFEQ)

4. VADEXSNTOE (NTREESAHCMDTEUIN)
5. XLEAGFOUSNER (EEEDANRB)
6. ONRSSDARUEN (TNAOSLLVAI)
7. OBBISPYLAE (VOOLRLPEI)
8. RINGOODEEL (VNEOETR)
9. LLBYILLNMIEC (TCCILE)
10. NNYBEOOYENR (TMNROO)



WORLD CUP

England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic played World Cup qualifying games recently. See if you can answer the following questions about the ties.

1. England suffered a 2-1 defeat by Rumania in Bucharest. Who scored England's goal in the second-half?
2. Scotland were held to a 0-0 draw by which country in their game at Hampden Park?
3. Can you name the striker who scored two goals for Wales in their 4-0 victory against Turkey at Ninian Park?
4. Goals from Noel Brotherston, Jimmy Nicholl and Sammy McIlroy (left) gave Northern Ireland a 3-0 win against Sweden in Belfast. What was the half-time score?
5. The Republic of Ireland drew 1-1 with European Championship runners-up Belgium. Did Tony Grealish put Eire one up or did he score the equaliser?

TRACE-A TEAM

The names of 11 past and present Bristol City players are spelt out in this frame in straight lines, either horizontally, vertically or diagonally and forwards or backwards. See how many you can spot.

N	R	E	P	O	O	C	L	T	N	E	R
M	N	D	C	Y	O	R	O	L	P	B	F
A	H	A	L	R	E	T	D	N	O	P	S
C	D	B	M	T	H	N	A	N	R	L	T
N	M	A	N	Y	A	M	E	O	P	B	D
E	C	U	G	L	E	N	Y	E	P	T	V
K	H	A	R	R	U	L	I	B	W	C	D
E	L	A	R	T	E	H	H	T	N	S	O
R	G	I	N	S	C	M	L	S	O	M	E
F	C	A	O	T	L	S	P	R	A	C	S
K	J	L	I	M	N	E	R	S	R	C	G
W	L	R	N	E	R	L	M	S	G	W	R

ANSWERS:

STRIKERS. 1. Yes. 2. Bumstead. 3. Bristol Rovers. 4. Mariner. 5. Peter. SAID IN SHOOT. 1. Airdrie's George Anderson. 2. Tony Kellow of Exeter. 3. Blackburn's Noel Brotherston. 4. Bury reserve manager Wilf McGinness. 5. Dennis Mortimer of Aston Villa. GREIG (Rangers). 3. Brian Clough (Nottingham Forest). 4. Dave Sexton (Manchester United). 5. Alex Ferguson (Aberdeen). 6. Ron Saunders (Aston Villa). 7. Bob Paisley (Liverpool). 8. Gordon Lee (Everton). 9. Billy McNeill (Celtic). 10. Benny Rooney (Morton). WORLD CUP. 1. Tony Woodcock. 2. Portugal. 3. Leighton James. 4. 3-0. 5. Equaliser. TRACE-A-TEAM. Cashley, Merrick, Sweeney, Hunter, Cooper, Mann, McCormack, Jantunen, Ritchie, Garland, Royle.

ON THE BALL ANSWERS:

ACROSS: (1) Cup. (3) Crystal. (5) Toss-up. (8) Bury. (10) George Best. (11) Gray. (14) Sims. (15) Alan Hansen. (17) Nest. (18) Earned. (21) Eusebio. (24) Day. DOWN: (1) Coypu. (2) Path. (4) Four. (6) Stewart. (7) Prepare. (8) Butcher. (9) Yards. (11) Osman. (13) Yen. (16) Need. (19) Abbey. (20) Used.

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an appointment applauded by his team-mates.

Beginning at right-back, Kevin was switched into the heart of the Norwich defence when John Bond boldly gambled on an attacking formation which left only three defenders at the back.

Kevin says: "It was a brave tactic and certainly shocked a few people. But to be honest I believe it is better to play with a sweeper. Three at the back is dangerous in that it often leaves you exposed when you lose possession.

"My father did a fine job at Norwich. He did not have bags of money to spend so he bought wisely and carefully. He will have to do the same thing with City once he decides on what shape he wants his team to take. They will benefit from his knowledge of thrifty transfer dealings.

"I am looking forward to this game. I know it will probably end in disappointment for one of us, but whatever the outcome we will

Father v son clash at Maine Road FAMILY BOND

WHEN Manchester City's manager bumps into Norwich City's captain in the corridors of Maine Road on Saturday (Nov 1st) both men will experience a brief moment of confused emotions before going their separate ways.

Because John Bond, new chief at Manchester, and his son Kevin, skipper of The Canaries, will be preparing for a big match, determined to beat each other yet anxious for the other to succeed!

"Much as I want my father to be successful with City, I will be doing everything in my power to make this a day he wants to forget," says Kevin. "Let's be realistic. We need the points as much as Manchester City and while we are engaged in our profession, off the field relationships do not come into it, not even on a family level.

ABOVE: John Bond, Manchester City manager.
RIGHT: Kevin Bond, Norwich City skipper.

"Our main problem, of course, is that my father knows just about all there is to know about us — our set pieces, team-plans and signals. That is hardly surprising because he was responsible for nearly all of them. Maybe we will pull a few surprises on the day.

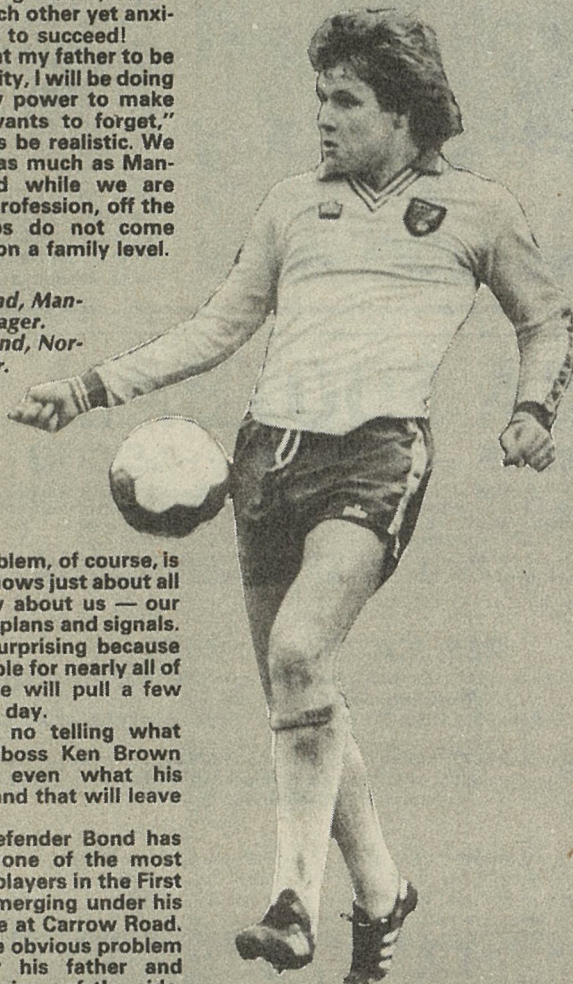
"But there is no telling what formation new boss Ken Brown will play, nor even what his line-up will be, and that will leave dad guessing."

England 'B' defender Bond has developed into one of the most versatile young players in the First Division since emerging under his father's guidance at Carrow Road. He overcame the obvious problem of working for his father and earned the captaincy of the side,

shake hands, share a good laugh and exchange encouragements.

"I believe he will bring the very best out of all the Manchester City players. I know my father, and viewing him purely as a manager he is a knowledgeable man capable of lifting players to great heights.

"I aim to make sure, however, that those heights are not reached until after our visit."



STEVE McMahon, who has made such a dramatic impact on the First Division this season, is a former Goodison Park ball boy.

Now, instead of collecting the ball, he is making it talk in Everton's midfield.

He got his chance, along with other youngsters at Goodison this season, because of Everton manager Gordon Lee's disenchantment with some senior players.

McMahon was as surprised as anyone else when he found himself on the team sheet at the start of the season. "Before it began I was thinking in terms of getting four or five First Division games under my belt.

"I played a few pre-season friendlies but I still didn't think I'd be in for the opening League game."

The teenager couldn't have made a more impressive beginning and he says: "I think that playing in the First Division has improved my game. I can't put my finger on anything specific in my play. It's just improved my all round game.

"It gees me up to find myself playing against great players every week. You've got to think and react that much quicker in the first team, too, which also sharpens you up.



McMahon's mad about Everton

"I don't go out with the attitude I'm in the first team now and that's it! I feel I've got to be better than the other players to stay in, and that's why I buzz around all the time."

McMahon has been Everton crazy since he was a kid, signing schoolboy forms at 14 and then joining the ground staff as an apprentice.

Aston Villa, though, had hopes of snatching him from under Goodison Park noses. "John Gidman's father, who is the Aston Villa scout up here, came to my house and gave me a booklet on the club. But Everton was always going to be the club for me."

Ironically, Gidman is now a team-mate of McMahon's in an Everton squad that seems to have the ideal balance between youth and experience.

McMahon enjoys having a few old heads around him. "They've all helped me, and particularly Asa Hartford, who is alongside me in midfield.

"He talks to me all through the game, giving me advice and encouraging me. It's a big help."

McMahon played mainly as a sweeper in the reserves last season but he's a lot happier playing in midfield. "It's better for me because I like to be involved in the game all the time."

Although he has relished playing in the First Division, his biggest thrill so far came when Everton met Blackpool in the League Cup.

It gave McMahon the chance to play against the man he'd drooled over as a kid — Blackpool player-manager Alan Ball.

"He was my idol and I never dreamed that I might play against him one day. He didn't play in the first game but he turned out in the second-leg. It was great.

"He is a lot slower now than when I used to watch him but he's still got the touches."

Everton's encouraging start to the season has reminded Liverpoolians that there is another team on Merseyside. And what McMahon and all the others are hoping now is that for once, Everton can steal the thunder from their rivals across Stanley Park.

"If we keep playing the way we have been I see no reason why we shouldn't be up there challenging with the best of them."

Steve, of course, is still a junior member of the first team, even though he's often been the outstanding player in games this season.

"I feel a part of the first team now, but I know it can just as easily go wrong and I'll end up back in the reserves.

"When I got into the team Mick Lyons told me to savour the atmosphere of match days in the first team so that I would crave to get back to it if I were ever dropped.

"I like it so much that I'm determined to do all I can to keep my place."

FRANK STAPLETON—

DON Howe has no doubts. The Arsenal and England 'B' coach said: "Frank Stapleton is the most complete centre-forward in Europe. I've watched him in the Cup-Winners' Cup, and for the Republic of Ireland. No striker has impressed me more. I saw all the so-called top players of Europe in the European Championship, but Frank is better than any of them."

If a random poll of 100 football fans wouldn't necessarily put the Arsenal and Eire star in their European XI it is because Frank is such an unassuming person.

Those players who don't make the headlines for the wrong reasons are, sadly, too often overlooked or taken for granted. Headlines these days tend to be about the unsavoury side of football. A superb display by a centre-forward is hardly likely to warrant much of a mention.

Intelligent

Frank Stapleton is every mother-in-law's dream. He's good looking, polite, intelligent and he plays in what is arguably the most physical of positions.

His temperament is ideal. He takes the knocks and accepts them. Retaliation doesn't figure in his make-up.

The 24-year-old Irishman has been a regular in the Arsenal side for four years, scoring 13 goals in his first full season, 1976/77. He's been an international since then, too, scoring on his debut against Turkey in the autumn of 1976.

Now, not for the first time in his career, there is a question mark hanging over his future. Will he follow Liam Brady to Italy?

A few years ago Frank thought his future would be limited at Arsenal. "I was depressed and

Stapleton comes away from Renquin during the recent Eire/Belgium World Cup tie.



little things were getting me down," he says. "I couldn't claim a regular place and began to wonder if a move wouldn't benefit me."

Then, in the summer of 1979, his contract expired. There was talk of him and David O'Leary moving to Europe. Eventually he signed a two-year contract saying: "I am very happy at Highbury."

"I wanted to look at the possibility of playing in Europe. It wouldn't be too strange because you must remember I am already playing abroad."

Understands

Next summer, Frank will be a free agent. There have been rumours that he will definitely move on this time. One understands that a well-known Italian agent has been 'offering' Frank around, although apparently Liam Brady's club, Juventus, are also very interested in the West German Horst Hrubesch.

There are good reasons for the player to leave. Financially, a European club could offer him far more than Arsenal could; he would insist on a release-clause, as Brady did, so his international career wouldn't be affected.

Against that, Frank is possibly not as single-minded as Brady. He's single, and it's always easier for a married player to build a new life elsewhere. And while Arsenal may not be able to match an Italian club's wages, you can bet that they'll make Frank an offer that will make him financially secure.

Don Howe is hopeful. "I place a high value on loyalty. It's not been good for the game to see managers moving around left, right and centre. How can they preach loyalty to players? Frank loves Arsenal and he knows we



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'EUROPE'S BEST'

can offer him a great future."

How much Arsenal would pay Stapleton is a matter for speculation, although £60,000 per year may not be too far out.

So what is it that makes the Arsenal striker such a good player? "He's got the right attitude," says Howe. "Frank always wants to learn. He isn't at all conceited and in the nine years he's been at Highbury we've never had any trouble with him."

Stapleton, for his part, is more self-critical. "I couldn't say I was a natural player. I have had to work hard on my speed, and I had problems with my balance initially, too."

Comparisons are inevitable and if Garry Birtles — for all his talent, still to really prove himself in many ways — is worth £1.5 million, then Frank's value must be nudging the £2 million mark. But then that's what



Arsenal coach Don Howe has no doubts that Stapleton is Europe's number one striker.



Norwich rate Justin Fashanu at... and he's just a beginner! Did we hear £2.5 million?

The tragedy is that if Stapleton DOES decide to go European Arsenal will, as they did with Brady, receive just a fraction of his market value in the Football League, under EEC rules.

As an Irish star, Frank does not receive the same coverage as his England counterparts, but the signs are that in 1982 the Republic of Ireland will be in Spain for the World Cup Finals.

"We have a great chance. At home I'd back us against anyone and the spirit is so good in the camp we fancy ourselves against anyone, anywhere."

The game in England is not so well off for talent that it can afford to lose Frank Stapleton.

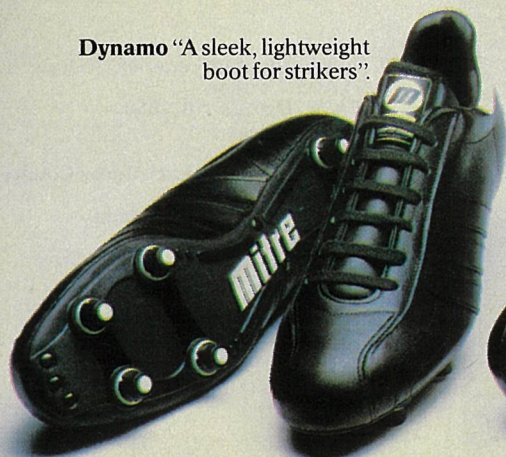
When he will make a decision is unknown; there is no need for him to rush. Perhaps at the end of the day whether Arsenal are in Europe next season or not will sway him.

Or then again, knowing Frank... if The Gunners' DO miss out again he may feel this is a good enough reason to stay, to help them back to the top.

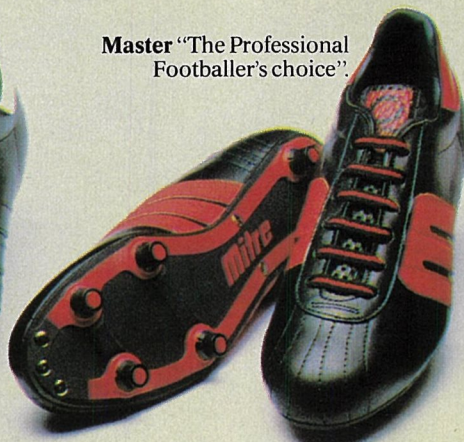
BY CHRIS DAVIS

Stapleton's contract expires at the end of this season — will he link up again with Liam Brady at Juventus?

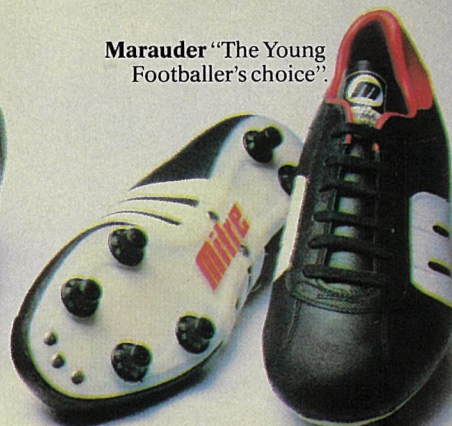
Dynamo "A sleek, lightweight boot for strikers".



Master "The Professional Footballer's choice".



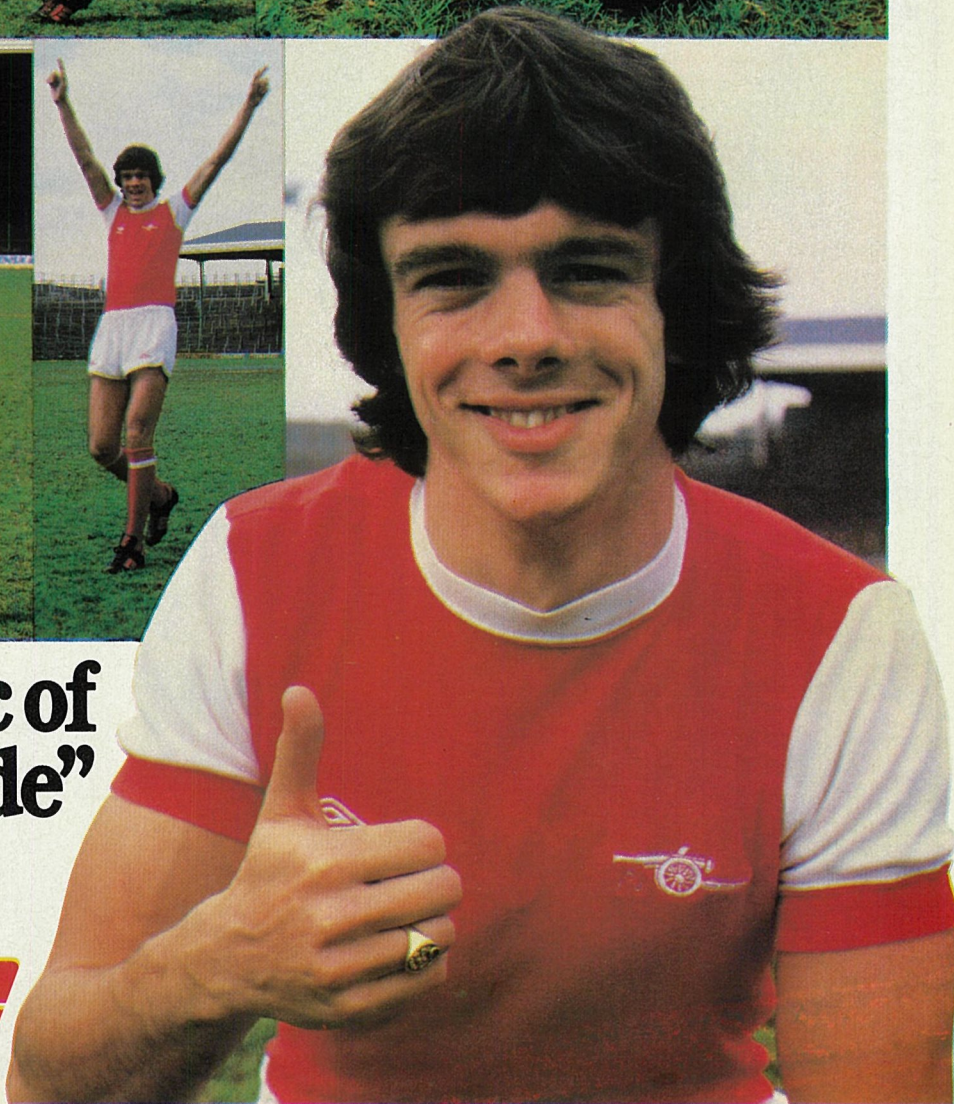
Marauder "The Young Footballer's choice".



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For further information contact: Ray Matthews, Mitre Sports,
Bay Hall Works, Birkby, Huddersfield, HD15AJ.



FOCUS ON



FULL NAME: Charles Frederick George.
 BIRTHPLACE: London.
 BIRTHDATE: October 10, 1950.
 HEIGHT: 5ft 11½ins.
 WEIGHT: 12st 6lbs.
 PREVIOUS CLUBS: Arsenal, Derby County.
 MARRIED: Yes.
 CHILDREN: One daughter, Kaana.
 Car: Rover 3500.
 FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Daily Mirror.
 FAVOURITE PLAYER: Colin Todd
 (Birmingham City)
 MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE: Trevor
 Hebbard.
 FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Derby County.
 FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD: Denis
 Law.

CHARLIE GEORGE SOUTHAMPTON

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Squash.
 MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: My next one.
 MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Scoring four
 goals in the two-leg European Cup
 Quarter-Final against Real Madrid in 1976.
 BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing the
 above tie 6-5 on aggregate.
 FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: Derby and
 especially Arsenal.
 FAVOURITE FOOD + DRINK: Most food and
 drink.
 MISCELLANEOUS LIKES AND DISLIKES:
 Watching sports/people who are not
 punctual.
 FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: America.
 FAVOURITE T.V. STAR, MALE AND
 FEMALE: Denis Waterman and Una Stubbs.
 FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF:
 Listening to records.
 FAVOURITE SINGERS: Diana Ross, George
 Benson, Lou Rawls.
 AFTER-MATCH ROUTINE: Meal and a drink.
 BEST FRIEND: My wife.
 BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Des
 Anderson when at Derby County. He is still
 one of my closest friends.
 INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Six Under-23
 and one full England cap.
 PERSONAL AMBITION: To stay in football as
 long as possible.
 IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU
 DO? Never really thought about it.
 WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD
 YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Frank Sinatra.

Charlie George

SHOOT!